



ST. CHARLES AVENUE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*Online Worship*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021 | BAPTISM OF THE LORD

## GATHERING

*Good Morning and welcome to worship at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church,  
in which today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord.*

*This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Jenkins

CALL TO WORSHIP "Let us worship God."

VOLUNTARY

PRAYER OF ADORATION (*from Psalm 85*)

Hallie Boh

O God, your love is unfailing, from generation to generation, your mercy everlasting. Your beauty is as overwhelming as it is awesome wherever we gaze into the mirror of nature and grace. The history of this world bears testimony to your long-suffering; the history of your people Israel reminds us of your patience. So it is that we feel free to come before you, humbly asking your forgiveness of our failings and your grace despite our own lack of mercy. Make of us, we pray, a people after your own heart. Teach us to nurture love and faithfulness and to value peace and righteousness, that we may be your people in fullness of life as well as in name. Amen.

HYMN

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

ELLACOMBE

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.  
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,  
While all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us come before God Almighty with humble hearts, confessing our sin in the assurance that we are heard and loved and forgiven.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Wherever we turn, O God, we witness your glory. Waters of streams and oceans thunder in response to your presence; forests shake until even the greatest trees shatter like twigs; hills and mountains quake and leap like lambs when you shrug your shoulders. Your breath that quickened all things with life, if withheld, watches all things fall into non-existence; your spirit that makes mud a living soul, moves storms and healing breezes all over this world. When we come before you, we are mindful of your power. Make us mindful also of your

mercy. Strive within our hearts, that we may learn to love your way as much as we respect your might. For it is in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ that we pray. Amen.

## SILENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR DEPENDENCE UPON GOD

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For each breath, each beat of our hearts, for every motivation to do good, and every impulse to do better, we are dependent upon you, O God: let us believe and receive your full pardon. Raise us to new life, we pray, in the assurance of your mercy, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we acknowledge also our forgiveness. Amen.

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"Blessed Lord, who has caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed assurance of eternal life in our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen."

- *Book of Common Prayer*, alt.

### THE FIRST LESSON

The Acts of the Apostles 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

### THE GOSPEL LESSON

The Gospel According to St. Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And 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. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

### SERMON

"Why Walk When We Can Fly?"

Michael Jenkins

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostles' Creed"

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### OFFERTORY

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Finding our rest in you, O God, we believe, is the only full measure of rest we can know. Life rushes on, a flood bearing away everything before it. When we try to cling, we tear our fingers on rocks and ledges along the shore, but there is no stopping, no holding on. The stream rushes along, and we and all we love with it.

Yet we also know that all this stream of life and all within this stream are precious to you, more precious to you even than to ourselves.

You hold all that moves. Help us learn, therefore, that we do not have to cling. For you hold us and you hold all we love, and you hold all living things and also the stream that bears us; you hold all so we can let go.

Love makes cowards of us all, Lord. But love beyond love casts out fear. We believe; help our unbelief. We trust; heal our distrust. We hope; but our hopes are not big enough for your future.

Share your Spirit abundantly with us, we pray, that we may rest in you, indeed. Amen.

**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.**

## SENDING

### HYMN

"Lord, I Want to Be a Christian"

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

*Refrain: In my heart, (in my heart), in my heart, (in my heart),*

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. *Refrain*

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. *Refrain*

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. *Refrain*

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### CHORAL RESPONSE

"The Irish Blessing"  
SCAPC Virtual Chancel Choir

Blackmon

### VOLUNTARY

---

*Videography and photos by Steven B. Blackmon*