

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2018

CALL TO REVERENCE

* OPENING SONG "We Lift Our Voices" #710

*We lift our voices; we lift our hands
We lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands
Lord use our lives they are yours, we are an offering*

*All that we have, all that we are
All that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you
We lift our voices; we lift our hands
We lift our lives up to you
We are an offering, we are an offering.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP from Genesis 2, Exodus 14, Ezekiel 47, & Mark 1

One: Friends, let us be called to worship by God's story, told through water: A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches.

All: *Flowing water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: The name of the first branch is Pishon, the second Gihon, the third Tigris, and the fourth Euphrates.

All: *Abundant water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

All: *Receding water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their left and on their right.

All: *Redeeming water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple: there water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple.

All: *Holy water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: He said to me, "Wherever this water goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish...and everything will live where the water goes."

All: *Renewing water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

All: *Life-giving water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

All: *Spirit-filled water, the gift of a gracious God.*

One: And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased."

All: *In Jesus Christ, we too are beloved. Let us come to the water, the gift of a gracious God. Amen.*

* HYMN #32 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

* PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

One: Timeless God, you cast light into sin's dark places and call us your Beloved. Forgive us:

**All: *when we still linger in the shadows;
when we treat others in hurtful ways;
when we speak ill of your friends.***

One: As he knelt in the waters of Jordan, you proclaimed Jesus as your Child, pointing to him as the way to you. Forgive us:

**All: when we put ourselves ahead of him;
when we think he is no longer needed;
when we fail to see him in the broken of our world.**

One: Baptized and blessed in your living waters, you would have us be your servants in our time. Forgive us:

**All: when we fail to welcome the stranger;
when we refuse to forgive as we should;
when we believe we are too good to kneel down
and tie the shoes of the lost, the least, the last, the little.**

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON "What the Lord Has Done in Me"

Response: **Hosanna, hosanna to the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna, hosanna Jesus died and rose again
Hosanna, hosanna to the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna, hosanna Jesus died and rose again**

* SHARING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

* HYMN #37 "Let All Things Now Living"

FIRST LESSON Acts 19:1-7

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 1:4-11

One: This too is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "In the Bleak Midwinter" Holst

SERMON "What's In Your Font?" Stacey Steck

* HYMN #503 "Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation"

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

OUR OFFERING

Offertory: "Echo Carol" Jungst

* Doxology:

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer

* HYMN #694 "Great God of Every Blessing"

* BENEDICTION

Congregational Response #151, refrain

**O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

* POSTLUDE "March of the Kings" Young

*Those who are able, please stand.

Some resources used in today's service from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com

VISITORS: We are delighted to welcome you today and hope your time here is a blessing. If you are not active in another church, we hope you will consider making Thyatira your church home. If you would like to find out more about us, please contact Pastor Stacey Steck at 704-245-8100.

LITURGIST: Today – Doug Patterson
Next Week – Melissa Kluttz

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: All children are strongly encouraged to remain in worship following the Time with Young Disciples. The Nursery, located at the top of the stairs in the educational building, is available for infants and very young children.

This Sunday – Ashlie Wilkie, Melissa Kluttz

Next Sunday – Alice Sloop, Robin Luther

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS (2's & 3's and Preschool):

Today – Leigh Anne Wetmore

Next Sunday – Abby Covington

GENEROSITY UPDATE: For the month of December we have reached 111% of our monthly goal. We finished the year within 97% of our yearly goal. Thank you for all your generosity!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THYATIRA PRAYER CONCERNS

Lutheran Home: Mullie Varner

C/O George Calhoun: Mary Alice Calhoun

White Oak Manor, Charlotte: Ruby Erwin

At Home: JoAnn Kerr
Ted Deal

- Tom Wilson, nephew of Brenda Ward, suffering from blood clots
- Joyce Caldwell, facing health challenges
- David Grimes, being treated for brain cancer
- Julie, a co-worker of Jada, recently diagnosed with cancer
- Chris, facing health challenges
- Monique's family, following the death of her mother
- Kitty Harris, dealing with health issues
- Thelma Walton in rehab at Liberty Commons
- Phares Sechler, recovering from surgery on her hand
- Barbara, in rehab at a nursing facility
- Carol King, receiving cancer treatment
- Evaun Bulman, friend of Sharry Davis, undergoing cancer treatment
- Bill Hall
- The situation in Puerto Rico following the hurricane
- A friend of Keith Townsend, being treated for cancer
- Betty Morgan, sister of Ruth Albright, recovering after serious car accident
- Alice Sloop's friend, Nancy, under hospice care
- Mike Hawkins' mother, Elizabeth, now at Genesis
- Linda Gaylor's mother, Barbara
- Jay Foster, a nine-year-old with heart issues
- Ada Jo Sloop, serving in the Peace Corps
- OC Shoaf
- A friend of Phares, Cindy Pope, being treated for some serious health issues
- Bill Bergstrom is being treated for leukemia
- Sharry Davis is being treated for cancer
- Drema Clemens' mother, Bertha Warden
- Millicent Hoffner's brother, Joe Kerr
- Mike Hawkins who has RA
- Jimmy's mother and father, Ernestine & Bill Hoffner
- Paul Rogers' daughter and family in Pakistan
- The Raymer family serving in Tanzania, Africa

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

BIRTHDAYS: January 7 – Paul Gaylor, Lauren Luther
8 – Raymond Harcum
12 – Michelle Patterson
13 – Ryan Sloop

ONE CHURCH ONE CHILD STAR: CHRISTMAS is over except for a big thank you to our congregation; you know who you are. Because of you there were 25 happy faces in our community. The Rowan County One Church One Child Star program was a big success. The packages were beautifully packaged, our car looked like Santa's sleigh. I am very grateful for all your help, you made it work. Thank you so much, Carol King

RAYS ADDRESS: If you would like to send a card or note of encouragement to Jody, Rebecca, Isaac, Josiah & Caleb Ray serving in Pakistan, you may send them to: Shikarpur Christian Hospital, c/o Ray Family, New Faujdari Road, Shikarpur, Sindh 78100, Pakistan.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES are outside the church office. Please pick them up before you leave. If anyone needs theirs mailed, please contact Sharon at 704-636-1595.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Today	8:00am	Men of the Church Breakfast
	9:00am	Deacons Meeting
	9:30am	The Happy Place
	10:00am	Sunday School for All Ages
	11:00am	Worship / Communion
	5:00pm	Youth Meeting
	6:30pm	Adult Choir
Monday	8:15am	Preschool
Tuesday	8:15am	Preschool
	6:30pm	Tutoring
Wednesday	8:15am	Preschool
	6:30pm	Prayer, Song & Study
Thursday	8:15am	Preschool
	5:30pm	Preschool Board
	7:00pm	Finance Meeting
Friday	8:15am	Preschool
Next Sunday	8:30am	Session
	9:30am	Children's Choir (Big Kids) & The Happy Place
	9:50am	Children's Choir (Preschoolers)
	10:00am	Sunday School for All Ages
	11:00am	Worship
	6:30pm	Adult Choir