

LET US WORSHIP GOD!

January 11, 2026—10:30 AM
BAPTISM OF THE LORD

A HYBRID WORSHIP EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough;
Worship Leader: Beverly Mate; Message: Rev. Virginia Scott, Pulpit
Supply; Worship Production: Norris Clark



WELCOME! WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

So glad you're here today! Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com

MESSAGE PREVIEW:

We welcome Rev. Virginia Scott to the pulpit today. Her message is titled "It's the Will of God".

MUSIC PREVIEW:

"Morning Has Broken" began as a poem by Eleanor Farjeon in 1931, set to an old Scottish Gaelic tune called "Bunessan," celebrating creation and new beginnings, but became a global hit after Cat Stevens (now Yusuf Islam) recorded his piano version in 1971, transforming it from a children's hymn into an anthem of hope and peace. Farjeon, a noted children's author, wrote the verses for a church songbook, drawing inspiration from the beauty of the natural world and Genesis, while Stevens discovered it during a dry spell, finding its universal message of renewal compelling.

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" was written by George Croly, an Irish Anglican minister and writer, in the mid-1800s while he was serving a poor London congregation; it's a heartfelt prayer for the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence, seeking inner transformation, purification, and the strength to love God wholeheartedly, reflecting his experiences with deep faith and spiritual struggle amidst poverty and doubt.

"God of Grace and God of Glory" was written by prominent liberal preacher Harry Emerson Fosdick in 1930 for the dedication of New York City's Riverside Church, a challenging time during the Great Depression, making it a powerful prayer for courage, wisdom, and social justice for a church facing modern evils and societal struggles. It's a Social Gospel hymn, asking God to help the church overcome war, greed, and apathy, and to be a force for healing and freedom.

GOD WELCOMES ALL (UNISON)

God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.

THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (RESPONSIVE)

(FROM PSALM 148)

One: The voice of the Lord is powerful and full of majesty.

Many: May the Lord bless us with God's Peace!

One: The voice of the Lord proclaimed Jesus as God's beloved.

Many: In our own baptisms, we are claimed as God's beloved.

OPENING PRAYER: (UNISON)

Come, Holy Spirit, our guiding Light and Strength, for we gather on this day, the Baptism of our Lord, to hear your Word and be renewed in your presence. You call us, O God, from the waters of our own lives, affirming your beloved Son and commissioning us to be your servants in the world. We thank you for this sacred moment, for the promise of new beginnings and the enduring hope found in Christ. As you anointed Jesus, anoint us with your Spirit, that we may walk in your path of peace, bring light to darkness, and live out your justice and love in our homes, our community, and our world. Equip us, Lord, for the work you set before us, that we may be your hands and feet, reflecting your glory and sharing your boundless mercy. Hear our prayer, O God, as we offer it in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN - #469 (BLUE) "MORNING HAS BROKEN"

**1. Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.**

**Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**2. Sweet the rain's new fall sin lit from heaven,
Like the first dew fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

CALL TO CONFESSION:

On this Baptism of the Lord Sunday, we remember our own baptisms, where we were claimed as children of the covenant and beloved of God. Yet we live as those who are alienated from God. We have turned away from God, one another and the earth. Let us confess our sins, trusting in God's mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (UNISON)

Merciful God, we confess that we are estranged from you and from one another. We treat others as strangers rather than as people created in your image and fellow children of God. We exploit the earth as though it were our possession rather than a gift entrusted to our care and a reflection of your image and glory. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit that we might live as people who have been baptized as your own children. Amen.

Silent Reflection

HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE: (RESPONSIVE)

One: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel — and of Jesus' solidarity in his own baptism by John with all who have been immersed in baptismal waters, repenting of their sin.

Many: In his name, God has forgiven us of our own sins and set us on new paths.

One: Let us remember our baptisms and trust in God's mercy to restore our right standing as God's own.

Many: Thanks be to God!

***THE GLORIA**

**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, Amen.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

O God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that the words we are about to hear will become the Word of God for us this day. Help us to listen to what the Spirit is saying to the church.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: MICAH 6: 6-8

With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 8: 1-7

but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around him, and he sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to Jesus, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

MESSAGE: “IT'S THE WILL OF GOD”

REV. VIRGINIA SCOTT

PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #326 (BLUE), "SPIRIT OF GOD"

- 1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.**

- 2. Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King;
All, all Thine own; soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see Thy cross, there teach my heart to cling,
O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!**

3. Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

4. Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven descended dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS:

On the Baptism of the Lord Sunday, we celebrate the great gift of Baptism and the life of promise therein. God has given us life and resources for it, so let us give in return.

OFFERTORY

THE DOXOLOGY

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

Prayer of Dedication

COMMUNITY NEWS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Neil Oberlin ~ Jan. 18

Announcements:

Session is having a **planning meeting** on **Sunday, January 11**, after worship. Any input from the congregation is appreciated.

Worship & Music Team Meeting - **Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 9:45 am** in Price Hall.

Deacons will be having a **meeting** on **Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 10:30 am** in Price Hall.

Session will have their monthly **meeting** on **Thursday, Jan. 15 at 5:00 pm** in Price Hall.

Sign up for an [after worship luncheon](#) in the narthex on the table. A few from worship will gather **at the Bella Vida restaurant in West Cape May, for lunch following worship on **Sunday, January 25**. We will be using a private room in the back of the restaurant for our fellowship.**

*****[The Congregational Annual Meeting](#) will be held on Sunday February 8, after worship. It will include a covered dish luncheon. Reports for the meeting should be given to the church office by February 1. *****

The flowers that beautify the sanctuary are given by John Saalman in loving memory of his Father, William Saalman.



To donate flowers in memory, or in honor, of a loved one, sign up in the narthex and/or contact Beverly Mate, 609-847-1530. (\$20/vase).

RECEIVING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

(If you'd like to add to our prayer list, please complete a green Let's Pray card.)

Pray for: **Rev. Jack Wright** is in Cooper Hospital, Camden diagnosed with an aggressive lymphoma in his left kidney. He will be starting severe treatments and will need our prayers; **Kaite Purdy** as she continues her studies in New Orleans; **Larry Pacentrelli**, a veteran pilot facing surgery to relieve numbness in his arms; Praise and a prayer for the blessing of **seeing our families** during Christmas; **Kirsten's family**, victims of a house fire and in a temporary home, are feeling their loss greatly during this Christmas season; **the Adkisson family** in Denver, advise that **Dana's Mom** is in hospice care; Sue's **cousin Greg Smith**, is scheduled for heart surgery on Jan. 6, 2026; **Rev. Jim Shanley**, recuperating slowly; **Ariana Palmer**, 23 year old awaiting heart transplant;

Continual prayer requested for: **Eileen Stalford** in nursing care; **Pastor Bob Sheidly** friend of Bob Heinly, as he battles multiple maladies of aging; Anna Sheidly is now receiving hospice care.

Those on hospice care: **Marty, John Stalford, Gertrude Hess, Ted Lewis, Anna Sheidly.**

Those undergoing cancer treatment: Kiley Fulford; Bob Maher, Karen R., Keith, Todd, Brian, Gerri Mills, Robin B, Mike, Kim, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Candy, Donna, Liz, Joe, Jennifer, Lori, Ruth, Debbie, Mike Grecco, Norma Sasso, Roseann Crook, Christa, Jackie, Diane, Charlotte Holman, Joe Paulits, Gretchen, Ray, Carl, Robert, Patricia, Julie, Richard Beare and Rev. Jack Wright.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

Once we were strangers,
Now we are neighbors.
Once we were strangers,
Now we are friends.

**SENDING HYMN: #420 (BLUE) "GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY",
VERSES 1, 2, & 4**

1. God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient Church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom grant us courage
For the facing of this hour
For the facing of this hour

2. Lo the hosts of evil 'round us
Scorn thy Christ, assail thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us

**Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.**

**4. Set our feet on lofty places;
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces,
Pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
That we fail not them nor Thee!
That we fail not them nor Thee!**

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE:

**REV. VIRGINIA SCOTT
JAYNE McDONOUGH**

Go in peace. See you next week!

So glad you've joined us. Please Like and Subscribe on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. Worship at any time on YouTube. Invite others to join you next week.

Notes for Today's Music: CCLI License #20561018. CCLI Streaming License #20561001 Worship Lyric Videos, all rights reserved, Web license. Worship House Media, Web License. OneLicense Limited Podcast / Streaming License #M-401274.

1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song #5495557
2. *Morning Has Broken*: Eleanor Farjeon, Gaelic tune, arr. Dale Grotenhuis; CCLI Song #3999519
3. *Gloria* Public Domaine
4. *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*: George Croly, Frederick Cook Atkinson; CCLI Song #2083
5. *Doxology* - CCLI Song #4255578
6. *God of Grace and God of Glory*: Harry Emerson Fosdick, John Hughes; CCLI Song #7159771