



DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*“You are my beloved child
in whom my heart delights.”*



Celebration of Worship

January 12, 2025, 11:00 AM

The Baptism of The Lord

[Click Here to Listen](#)

*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected in baskets during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Meditation on "West Main"
(Tune of the middle hymn, pg. 7)

Words of Welcome

Rev. Phil Davis

Announcements

Chime

*Introit

Walk in the Light
"Walk in the light, beautiful light,
Come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world."

Arr. André Thomas

Text: George D. Elderkin

*Call to Worship

Elizabeth Katz

Leader: Come, beloved of God, to remember who you are and whose you are.

People: God in Christ, has named us all "Beloved."

Leader: Yes, here and now, God's heaven of love is being poured out anew.

People: May this motion of the Holy One, shape our hearts and minds.

Leader: May it brighten the light within us and the whole creation.

People: And may it shape our words and work into good news for the world!

*Invocation

All: Holy One, awaken us again to Your outpouring Spirit of Love. Through this generous gift, stretch our souls wide and form us into channels of your healing grace. Gift us with an ability to recognize You in each other, all imprinted with Your beloved blessing. Clarify our intentions, purify our actions, fill our words with grace and our hearts with hope. Yes, soak our thinking, our praying, our hoping, our everything in You. Amen.

*Hymn

Shall We Gather at the River
(Verses 1-3, *Music may be found on page 6.*)

HANSON PLACE

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

All: Loving God, let me enter again Your baptismal river of grace. Let it soak every stain attached to the fabric of my life and longings. Yes, Holy One, submerge me in You again and again and again. Cleanse every distracting impulse luring me away from You who are my heart's deepest desire. Let no urgency be more important than Your forgiving love, always transforming. Today, help me choose you above every temptation that lures me to worship lesser things. By this of You, forgive me, renew me, and grant me the grace promised by You in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Grace

Leader: Before we thought to turn to God, God already turned toward us in love. The saturating grace of God is trustworthy and true. Our prayers of transformation have been met with God's outpouring of forgiving love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

Scripture

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14
Matthew 2:1-12

Time for Young Disciples

Music for Reflection Spirit of Mercy, Truth and Love Howard Helvey

*"Spirit of mercy, truth, and love, O shed thine influence from above,
and still from age to age convey the wonders of this sacred day.*

*In every clime, by every tongue, be God's eternal glory sung;
let all the listening earth confess the name that claims our faithfulness.*

*Unfailing comfort, heavenly guide, still o'er thy holy church preside;
descend upon us like a dove, Spirit of mercy, truth, and love."*

Text: Anon. 18thc

Scripture Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon The Language of Heaven Rev. Phil Davis

*Hymn Down Galilee's Slow Roadways WEST MAIN
(*Music may be found on page 7.*)

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Jesus

**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music Down in the River to Pray American Negro Spiritual
Arr. Eric Nelson

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;**

Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters BEACH SPRING
(*Music may be found on page 8.*)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude Noel Louis-Claude Daquin

*Passing of the Peace
The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Thank you to:

Liturgist: Elizbeth Katz
Chancel Choir Members

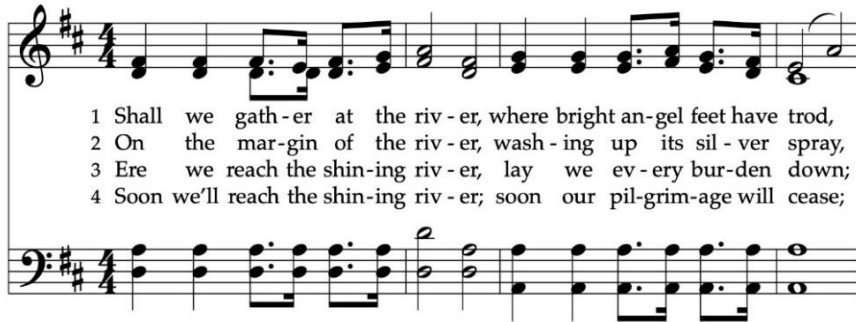
Soprano: Nicole Knickerbocker, Lindsey Puc, Carolina Sullivan, Joan Sussman

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Isabella Apodaca, Leah Rosenman

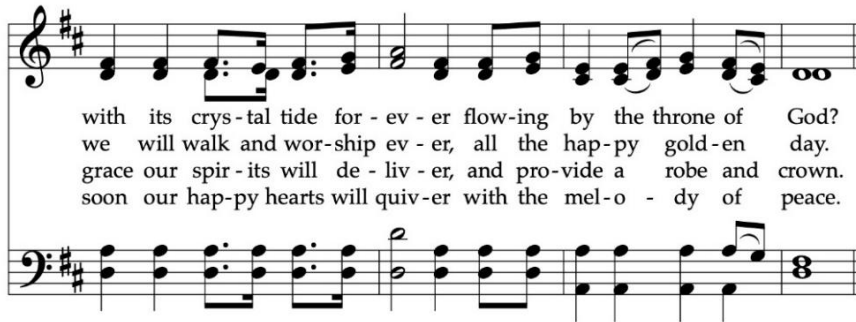
Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling, Evan McMahon

Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHORITY, Elijah Gebers,
Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

375 Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;

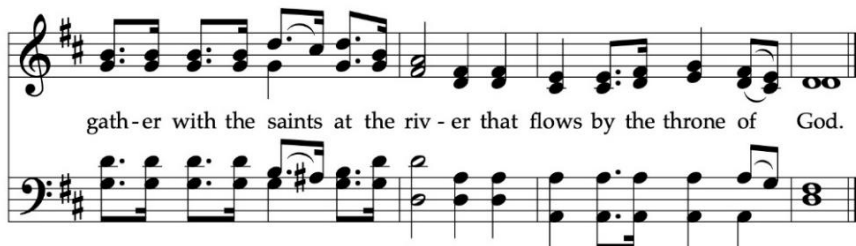


with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;



gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).

Down Galilee's Slow Roadways 164

Capo 3: (A9) (D/A) (A9) (Dsus)(D)
C9 F/C C9 Fsus F



1 Down Gal - i - lee's slow road-ways a strang-er trav-eled on
2 A - ris - ing from the riv - er he saw the heav-ens torn;
3 We too have found a road-way; it led us to this place.

(A9) (D/A) (G) (F#m)
C9 F/C Bb Am



from Naz - a - reth to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John.
it seemed the sky so o - pen re - vealed the Spir - it's form.
We all have had to trav - el in search of hope and grace.

(Bm) (F#m) (Gmaj7) (F#m7) (Em) (A/C#)(Bsus)(Bm)
Dm Am Bbmaj7 Am7 Gm C/E Dsus Dm



He went down to the wa - ters like sol - dier, scribe, and slave,
The ho - ly dove de-scend-ed a - mid a glo - rious voice:
But now be - side this wa - ter a - gain a voice is heard.

(G) (D/F#) (Em7) (G/A) (Asus)(A7) (D)
Bb F/A Gm7 Bb/C Csus C7 F



but there with - in the riv - er the sign was birth and grave.
"You are my own be - lov - ed, my child, my heart, my choice."
"You are my own, my cho-sen, be - lov - ed of your Lord."

When reviewing baptismal resources with other members of the United Church of Canada's Working Unit on Worship, the author was struck by how few hymns had been written for adult baptism. This meditative text on the Baptism of Jesus is an effort to remedy that situation.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

MUSIC: John D. Horman, 1998

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music © 1998 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

WEST MAIN

7.6.7.6.D

(alternate tune: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN)

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$



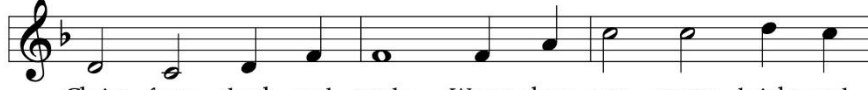
1 Wash, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, new - born crea - tures
2 Ev - ery day we need your nur - ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - i - mag - ined,

(D) F (Bm) Dm



of your womb. Num-ber them a - mong your peo - ple, raised like
we be fed. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our

(G) B $\flat$ (D) F (A) C



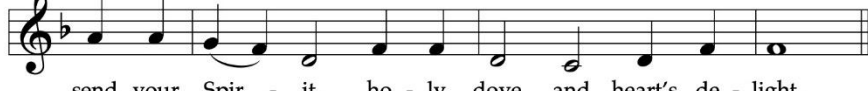
Christ from death and tomb. Weave them gar - ments bright and
bless - ing, liv - ing bread. God, re - new us; guide our
lives we wor - ship, praise! We your peo - ple stand be -

(Bm) Dm (F $\sharp$ m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$ (A) C (D) F



spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light. Fill, a - noint them;
foot - steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born. By your grace, our

(Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$ (D) F



send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text incorporates many of the images associated with the water of baptism in the Thanksgiving Over the Water in *The Book of Common Worship*, especially nourishment, the calling forth of life, cleansing and renewal, freedom from bondage, and sharing in Christ's resurrection.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1987, rev.

MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958

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Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press/Van Ness Press, Inc. (admin. Music Services)

BEACH SPRING
8.7.8.7.D

This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian

Sunday, January 12

9:45AM Sunday Forum –
Introduction to Rev. Carson Mouser
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship -Music Sunday
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Refreshments in Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 14

10:30AM Bible Study via Zoom
6:30PM Deacons Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, January 15

4:30PM Sunday Forum Mtg via Zoom
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 16

10:00AM Personnel Mtg. via Zoom

Friday, January 17

10:30AM Friday Book Group via Zoom

Sunday, January 19

10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship-Rev. Carson
Mouser
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM Congregational Meeting to
Elect/Install Officers
12:15PM Refreshments in Sanctuary
7:00PM Sophia Circle via Zoom

DUPC Sunday Forums January 2025

Sunday, January 5th

No Sunday Forum

**Sunday, January 12th
An Introduction to
the Reverend Carson Mouser
Bob Richane and David Lee**

Rev. Mouser will be working with our congregation
to discern who we are now in 2025.

What makes us unique and what is God calling us to do?

Sunday, January 19th

No Sunday Forum Planned

Rev. Carson Mouser to lead Worship

**Sunday, January 26th
My Spiritual Journey
Bob Richane**

Bob is a member of DUPC for 40+ years. He and Susan raised their three children in this community. Bob has served as a deacon, is currently an active elder, and has been involved in many aspects of DUPC life. A former Social Studies teacher, Bob now teaches history at Oasis, and his historical perspective is partially informed by his service in the Navy during the Vietnam War.

Sundays, 9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available in the Library and can go out with the Sunday School teacher (see below).

Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the "Time with Our Children and Youth" for a brief time with the pastor. Parents are welcome to come up with their children if they would like. The children then will be taken to the Sunday School room by their teacher.

• **An asterisk indicates** "please rise in body or spirit."

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



+We seek to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the "T" (telephone) position to utilize this option.

Joys and Concerns– If you have a joy or concern that you would like lifted in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request Card (available by the worship bulletins). The Cards will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the pastor.

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Do you have an interest in becoming a member of DUPC? You can speak with an Usher or the pastor. They would be happy to give you more information.

The Downtown Church Staff

Keisha Betts, Office Administrator
Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
The Rev. Philip B. Davis, Sr.,
Stated Supply Pastor
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
David Mear, Business Manager
Moses Nhial, Maintenance

Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator
Tyrone Reeves, Maintenance
Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet, Clerks of Session

Henry Ehindero, Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Philip B.
Davis, Moderator
Nancy Brown
David Lee
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper

Pat Tweet

Mary Rees

Deacons

Bob Carlisle

Andrea Folan

Elizabeth Katz

Elaine Johnson

Stephen Lloyd

Grania Marcus

Carol Samuel

Kelley Sheils

Marilyn Terpening

Sandy Morales

Helen Ganotis

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