

*And a voice came
from heaven,
“You are my Son,
the Beloved;
with you I am
well pleased.”*

Mark 1:11, NRSV



GEORGETOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
203 N. BEDFORD ST.
GEORGETOWN, DE 19947
JANUARY 10, 2021

Announcements

Prelude

Sallie Horner

"Crashing Waters at Creation," arr. G. Hamilton

*Crashing waters at creation,
ordered by the Spirit's breath,
First to witness day's beginning
from the brightness of night's death.
Cleansing water once at Jordan
closed around the one foretold,
Opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.*

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Thanksgiving for Baptism (Responsive)

O Christ of glory, you humbled yourself to be baptized, showing us the way of humility. Strengthen us to serve you in humility all the days of our life. **Lord, have mercy.**

O Christ, by your baptism you cleansed us from our sin, making us children of your Father. Give the grace of being a child of God to all who seek you. **Christ, have mercy.**

O Christ, by your baptism you revealed to us the glorious Trinity when the voice from heaven proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son," and the Holy Spirit descended upon you like a dove. Keep us, your children born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service. May we rejoice to be called children of God. **Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

Call to Worship

Psalm 29 ^{NLT}

L: Honor the Lord, you heavenly beings;
honor the Lord's glory and strength.

**C: Honor the Lord's glorious name.
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

L: The voice of the Lord echoes above the sea.
The God of glory thunders.

**C: The voice of the Lord splits the mighty cedars;
the Lord shatters the cedars of Lebanon.**

L: The Lord gives believers strength.
The Lord blesses them with peace.
Let us worship the Lord.

Opening Hymn:

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (vss. 1, 4 & 5)

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh:
Awake! And listen for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings.
4. To heal the sick, stretch out your hand,
and make the fallen sinner stand;
shine out, and let your light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.
5. To you, O Christ, all praises be,
whose advent sets your people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore!

Faith Sharing with Children

Pastor Jerry

Good and Very Good

The very first words in the Bible tell us that "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Then the Bible goes on to tell about God's creation. The earth keeps on spinning around and around as it has ever since it was created.

The first thing God created was light. The Bible tells us that God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God said "It is good." (All say, "It is good.")

When God finished creating water and land, flowers and trees, moon, sun and stars, animals and human beings, God looked at the whole of creation and said, "That is VERY GOOD!"

What God meant by Very Good is that every piece of creation is good in itself and all the pieces work perfectly together – Very Good indeed. God creates each of us good and wants us to work together with creation to create a world that is Very Good.

Pray after me:

**God, we thank you . . . that you alone are Creator. . .
Thank you for creating each of us in your image . . .
and making all things very good. Amen.**

Call to Confession

Pastor Jerry

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived as if we were your baptized people. We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness. We prioritize our own selfish interests. We cling to destructive habits, show reluctance to welcome one another, and allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us. Remind us of the promises you make in baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.

Silent prayer or meditation.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Jerry

No void we can imagine is too desolate for God's creative power. The one who made light and called it good is still the God of our evenings and mornings. In the name of the creator of heaven and earth, we are forgiven. **Alleluia! Amen.**

Musical Response

Marjorie Egger

"Search Me, O God" (v.2)

*I praise thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin.
 Fulfill thy Word and make me pure within.
 Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame.
 grant my desire to magnify thy name.*

Prayer for Illumination

Send down your Holy Spirit, O God—tear open the veil of heaven and speak to us as beloved children so that we may hear and believe the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-5 NRSV

- 1 In the beginning
 when God created the heavens and the earth,
- 2 the earth was a formless void
 and darkness covered the face of the deep,
 while a wind from God
 swept over the face of the waters.
- 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
- 4 And God saw that the light was good;
 and God separated the light from the darkness.
- 5 God called the light Day,
 and the darkness he called Night.
 And there was evening and there was morning,
 the first day.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:4-11 NRSV

- 4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness,
 proclaiming a baptism of repentance
 for the forgiveness of sins.

- 5 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.
- 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.
- 7 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.
- 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
- 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.
- 10 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.
- 11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Beloved Child"

Pastor Jerry

Ordination and Installation of Deacons and Ruling Elders

Statement on Ordination and Installation of Officers

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant & Renunciations

Thanksgiving for Baptism (prayer)

Presentation of the Elder for Ordination, Clyde Heath

Ordination and Laying On of Hands

Presentation of Deacons and Elders for Installation

Constitutional Questions for Ordained Office

Questions to the Congregation (Acting Clerk of Session)

Do we, the members of Georgetown Presbyterian Church, accept **Sharon Hubbard**, **Kay McCarthy**, and **Vicki Moore** as Deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ – do we? **“We do.”**

Do we accept **Peggy Hallowell**, **Mari Ellyn Hellard**, **Clyde Heath**, **Battle Robinson**, and **Austin Short** as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ – do we? **“We do.”**

Do we agree to pray for them, encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church – do we? **“We do.”**

Declaration of Installation

Prayer of Installation

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.**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Call for the Offering

Pastor Jerry

Offertory

Marjorie Egger & Sallie Horner

"God's Love Made Visible," Iola & Dave Brubeck

God's love made visible! Incomprehensible!

He is invincible! His love shall reign!

From love so bountiful, blessings uncountable

Make death surmountable! His love shall reign!

Joyfully pray for peace and good will!

All of our yearning he will fulfill.

Live in a loving way! Praise him for every day!

Open your hearts and pray! His love shall reign!

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Spirit of God, you created light in the darkness at the beginning of all things. Call us now to live as children of your light, as we share the blessings of our baptism with those in need. Amen.

Closing Hymn

"O Love, How Deep, How Broad," (vss. 1, 2 & 6)

1. O Love, how deep, how broad, how high,
how passing thought and fantasy:
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.

2. For us baptized, for us he bore
his holy fast and hungered sore;
for temptations sharp he knew,
for us the tempter overthrew.

6. All glory to our Lord and God
for love so deep, so high, so broad –
the Trinity whom we adore
forever and forevermore.

Charge and Benediction

Pastor Jerry

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COMMUNITY NEWS

First Fruits Cart

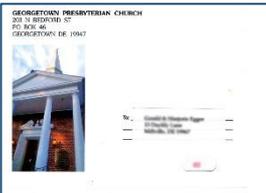
On the first Sunday of each month we remember those who are hungry. Staples and non-perishables that have been dropped off at the church in the past month will be delivered by the Mission Committee to the Food Pantry at Wesley U. M. Church in Georgetown.



Manse Renovations

The indebtedness of \$10,000, incurred to get the project started, has been repaid in full. Thank you for your generous donations! Approximately \$12,000 is needed to complete the manse renovations.

Offering Envelopes



Weekly envelopes for 2021 are available for pickup at the church.

If you would like the packet mailed to you, please notify the church office (302-856-6842).

Children and Youth Sunday School

Sumbal Gulab will be leading the children in the month of February, learning about Jesus' life in the gospel of Luke.

The new Zoom login starting this week is

<https://zoom.us/j/91768311050?pwd=blF0Y0ZTeE8xbGZzWnZYWDhhandudz09>

Meeting ID: 917 6831 1050. Passcode: GPC1234.

Youth. Join Sharon Lawrence via Zoom on Monday evenings at 8:30 pm for a devotional time. Your household has been sent a permanent link. Hope you can join us.

Spiritual Growth for Adults, Matthew 25

Austin Theological Seminary is offering a small group e-study through Education Beyond the Walls (EBW), their lifelong learning program which creates learning experiences for "all who want to nourish their minds, hearts and spirits." In a five-week course called *Doing Justice: Racism*, you'll have the opportunity to engage in courageous conversations with other Christian leaders and learners who are wrestling with the church's response to racism in America, a complex issue. Together we will deepen our understanding of the biblical, theological and sociological perspectives that are held by others. You can register and join a group for a 60-75-minute guided webinar or if you are interested in forming a small group from GPC contact Linda Wolfe or Sharon Lawrence. Deadline: January 20. Here is a link if you would like to learn more about this webinar.

<https://www.austinseminary.edu/lifelong-learning/online/doing-justice-racism>

Support Our Emergency Shelter

Our Emergency Shelter is open now through March 15.

We host up to 14 guests (males) per night. Sufficient funds and food items have been donated to cover ALL days for the To-Go Food Bags. THANK YOU!

We still are looking for volunteers to stay OVERNIGHT and others to do RESET on Thursdays and Saturdays. Reset begins at 7 am and takes about an hour. For information, call Mari Ellyn, 302-390-1629.



***Providing emergency nighttime
shelter for our homeless neighbors
during the winter months***

To support this ministry, please send your tax-deductible gift to: LOVE INC of Mid-Delmarva,
PO Box 542, Seaford, DE 19973 and write "Code Purple" on the memo line