

A Service of Song, Word, & Table
January 11, 2026

* Please rise in body or spirit.

WELCOME

PRELUDE Dr. Daniel Cummings

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River to be baptized.

We come to be cleansed and made whole.

Come! Let us witness John's confusion and Jesus' insistence that John baptize God Incarnate.

We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the kingdom of God.

Come! Let us hear God declare the truth of Jesus' identity and the truth of our identity as baptized people.

We come to remember and embody who we are as beloved children of God.

Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the baptismal waters and salvation life.

We come to worship God who empowers us through divine presence to live together as the family of God.

HYMN Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters UMH 605

*** A READING FROM THE GOSPEL** Matthew 3:13-17

This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

(11:00) ANTHEM Lord, I Know I Been Changed arr. Larry Shackley Chancel Choir

HOMILY

MUSICAL RESPONSE Fairest Lord, Jesus UMH 189

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord.

We have entered the season

in which your light has been given to the world,
your blessings have been poured out on the world,
and yet all we can think about is our own problems,
our own needs, our own desires.

Help us to desire you, Lord.

Help us to yearn for your presence.

Pour your baptismal waters over us again,
cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance.
Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you.
Wash away our jealousy, greed,
and all negative thoughts and behaviors
that stand in the way of our truly being
the people you have called us to be.
Again, let us receive the blessings offered in creation,
in the birth and baptism of Jesus,
and in the ministry of the saints of light.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silence

The love of God is always offered to us,
freely, joyfully, for all eternity.
Rejoice, dear friends,
this is the good news of our Lord. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE Baptized in Water (vs1) TFWS 2248

REGATHERING HYMN

INVITATION TO OFFERING & CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Faithful and Calling God, continue to draw us into community, into covenant, and into new life through waters of grace and acts of justice. Just as Jesus stepped into the river to stand with us and for us, we bring these gifts today to stand with others—to serve, to uplift, and to proclaim your kingdom. Use these offerings to fulfill your righteousness among us. Help us, your baptized people, to be instruments of healing, hope, and holy change in a world longing for good news. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

OFFERTORY Dr. Daniel Cummings

DOXOLOGY *UMH 94*
Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 17

May the Creator of the Holy Way be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts to the One who anoints you with the Spirit.

We come to God, our hearts' true delight.

Sing praise to God, who calls you to the waters of life.

Songs of thanksgiving are lifted to the One who prepared this Table for us.

In a wild whisper
you spoke to chaos,
God of the waters of life,
and your Spirit raced forth,
playing tag with the Word,
mountains shook with thunder,
whales whispered in the oceans,
hawks floated lazily in the skies,
and kittens chased butterflies in fields.

You created us from the dusty earth,
placing us in your garden on wonders
so we might delight in you, and in each other.
But we wandered away from you,

as sin and death took us by the hand,
teaching us to do all that is wrong.

Prophets came in every age
to testify about your hopes,
but we did not want to be
set free from our captivity.

So Jesus was sent, your future
coming over the horizon to us
to be baptized as your Beloved.

With those who bend but do not break,
with those who long to do what is right,
we lift our thanksgiving songs to you:

Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We glorify your name, Holy God,
and bless Jesus, your Child, our Savior.
Lord of all,

he came, not with shock and awe,
but with gentleness and patience.

Light of the world,
he came to fan the spark of justice
until it ignites throughout the world.

Bearer of our sins,
he died on the cross,
snared in death's embrace
until the tomb opened up
and the Spirit came down,
lifting him up, as you proclaimed,
'here is my Son, the Resurrected One.'

As we remember our baptism
into the life and death of Jesus,
we speak of our faith as a mystery:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

You spread the Table before us,
the Spirit anointing the bread and the cup
and those gathered in this place
of water and of the Word.
We take the broken bread,
it's healing grace strengthening us
to open eyes blinded by hate,
to free all imprisoned by fear,
to feed those who hunger for justice.

We share the Cup of salvation,
it's tender love nourishing us
to offer balm to the hurting,
to bring light to those who lose their way,
to not give up on the oppressed
until justice is served.

Then, when all righteousness is fulfilled
and we are gathered with our sisters and brothers
from all times and from every place,
we will join our voices to give you the glory,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN IN YOUR HEART LANGUAGE)

**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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

R3 Amen, amen, amen.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Dr. Daniel Cummings

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP*** SENDING HYMN**

When Jesus Came to Jordan

UMH 252

BENEDICTION

Go in peace; love and care for one another in the name of Christ;
and may the Spirit of God, which filled John and Jesus,
fill your hearts, souls, and minds;
may the power of God, which upheld them,
strengthen you for each day;
and may the love of God, which directed their every action,
be your guiding light and your shining star,
both now and forevermore. Amen

POSTLUDE

Dr. Daniel Cummings