

*First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship*

January 9, 2022 10:00 AM

First Sunday after Epiphany/The Baptism of Christ

PRELUDE *Be Thou My Vision* – arr. Zsolt Gárdonyi Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Carolyn Keilig

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: God is with us always and calls us each by name.

People: When we pass through difficulties and stress,

Leader: God is with us and calls us by name.

People: When we are discouraged and feel lost and alone,

Leader: God is with us and calls us by name, and heals us.

People: Blessed be God who knows us and calls us by name.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

God of grace and glory, you call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 464 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART *God Promises to Love You*

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT MEDITATION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

MUSICAL OFFERING *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* – arr. Dawayne Stamper

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 43:1-7; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

SERMON *Called by Name* Rev. Carolyn Keilig

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 257 *There's a Spirit in the Air*

BENEDICTION (Responsive)

Leader: Baptized, we will go to share God's love with others.

People: We will welcome those the world rejects as our sisters and brothers.

Leader: Baptized, we will become the grace of our Lord Jesus.

People: We will share the waters of life with everyone we meet.

Leader: Baptized, we will become the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

People: We will be a community of justice, not judgment; we will be a household of hope, not an exclusive club for just a few.

POSTLUDE *Little Fugue ("Swing")* – arr. Matthias Nagel

During these challenging times, we gratefully accept your financial offering to support Christ's mission in the heart of our city. Your gift may be left in any of the offering plates located at the exits.

*You are invited to stand if you wish.

The Benediction is by Thom Shuman, *Lectionary Liturgies*

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

First Congregational Church



January 9, 2022

Manchester, New Hampshire
United Church of Christ

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH * 603-625-5093
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

You are welcome here!
An Open & Affirming Congregation