

# First Presbyterian Church

Huntsville, Tennessee

The Baptism of the Lord

January 7, 2018 11:00 A.M.

Prelude

\*Call to Worship (from Psalm 29)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Give glory to God!

**People: Honor God's strength!**

Leader: Honor the name of the Lord;

**People: Bow when God comes,  
majestic and holy.**

\*Hymn 96

*All Beautiful the March of Days*

\*Prayer of the Day (said by all)

**Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in  
the River Jordan you proclaimed him your  
beloved Son, and anointed him with the  
Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are  
baptized into his name may keep the  
covenant they have made, and boldly  
confess him as Lord and Savior; who with  
you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,  
one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.**

Concerns of the Congregation

Message to the Children

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

Genesis 1:1-5; **Psalm 29**

Acts 19:1-7; \*Mark 1:4-11

\*Gloria Patri (#546)

Special Music

Sermon A Call Accepted

Prayers of the People

Litany for the Baptism of the Lord

Installation of Elders

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology (#544)

\*Prayer of Dedication

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Hymn 447 *Let Us Break Bread*

*Together*

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy . . . who  
forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power  
and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord!**

**Hosanna in the highest**

You are holy, O God . . . Great is the mystery  
of faith:

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit . . .  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor  
are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**Amen. Our Father . . .**

Sharing of the Bread and Cup  
Prayer

\*Hymn 80 *On Our Way Rejoicing*

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude

\*indicates the congregation may stand

## **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.

## **Psalm 29**

Give the Lord glory, you spirits!  
**Give glory! Honor God's strength!**

Honor the name of the Lord!  
**Bow when the Lord comes, majestic and holy.**

God's voice thunders above the massive seas;  
**Powerful, splendid, God thunders,**

God shatters the cedars.  
**Shatters the cedars of Lebanon,**

Makes Lebanon jump like a calf,  
**Syria like a wild ox.**

God's voice strikes fire,  
**Makes the desert shudder,**

Qadesh shudders in labor, deer shudder in labor.  
**God strips the trees.**

All shout "Glory!" in your temple, Lord,  
**For you rule the mighty waters; you rule over all  
forever.**

Give strength to your people, Lord,  
**And bless your people with peace.**

## Litany for the Baptism of the Lord

O Christ,  
by your epiphany your light shines upon us,  
giving us the fullness of salvation.  
Help us show your light to all we meet  
today.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

O Christ,  
by your baptism you sanctified creation  
and opened the door of repentance  
to all who are baptized.  
Make us servants of your gospel in the  
world.

**Lord, 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.

Renew a heart of worship within all the  
baptized.

**Lord, have mercy.**

(a brief silence)

Almighty God,  
you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the  
Holy Spirit, and revealed him as your  
beloved Son.

Keep us, your children born of water and  
the Spirit, faithful in your service,  
that we may rejoice to be called children  
of God;

through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Dear Members and Friends,

As we prepare for the new year, the Church invites you to prayerfully consider making a pledge of financial support for 2018. The benefits are many.

Yes, it's true that the missions and programs of the Church cost money - around \$10,000 per active family most years. It's also true that having some idea of expected resources helps the Session budget responsibly. But as important as these are, they pale in comparison to what pledging does for each of *us*.

**Just as our bodies and minds need exercise to keep us healthy, our spirit needs exercise too. Prayerful pledging is an excellent form of *spiritual exercise*.**

Pledging from faith says, "I may not know for sure *how* I can do this, but I have faith that God will help me each week." Confronting this challenge is a very effective *spiritual workout* -- one which builds personal and spiritual discipline, while helping accomplish God's work in our community and our world.

Please pledge today! You don't need to be a member. You don't even need to be a grown up. You just need to care enough to drop your confidential, non-binding pledge form in the plate when it comes by.

Your Church will thank you, and your spirit will begin to develop that toned, well conditioned feel that only a good *workout* can provide.