

OAK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

January 13, 2019

Baptism of the Lord

10:30 a.m.

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

As you arrive in the sanctuary, please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.

***those who are comfortable, please stand**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Wie Schon Leuchtet der Morgenstern

Bach

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We sang of your birth,

Many: We celebrated your story.

One: We noticed your star,

Many: And journeyed together in wonder.

One: God of Love, you created us all,

Many: You call us by name,

One: Beloved, you say.

Many: God of Love, we gather in your name.

One: God of Love, we rest in your presence.

Many: God of Love, we have come to worship you.

***OPENING HYMN**

Loving Spirit

No. 293

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Unison: God of Love, with water, with fire, with voice, with wind, with breath, with a star in the sky, you've reached out to us; calling our names, showing us your way. We confess, though, that we've ignored your signs and held fast to our own agendas. We cling to our own plans, carry around old grudges, and allow worry and fear to lead us. We are slow to care for our neighbors, to love our enemies, and to welcome the stranger. We are held captive by the distractions of this world and this time. Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive us. And remind us again of your everlasting story, your steadfast love, and your abundant grace. Send more water, more fire, more sparkle and shine. Send always your love and wisdom, to guide us back to your way. Through Christ, we pray, AMEN.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*Cantor sings responses through first, followed by the congregation*)

"Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today." (repeat)

***SHARING THE PEACE**

(Share the peace of Christ as you feel led, with a wave, a smile, a kind word, or a handshake.)

THE WORD

TIME FOR GROWING DISCIPLES

(At the conclusion of the Time for Growing Disciples, children ages birth to 3rd grade may stay in worship or go to the nursery.)

ANTHEM

Like a Dove

Purifoy

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

(see insert)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:15-22

(see insert)

SERMON

The Rev. Erin Counihan

MEDITATION IN MUSIC

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

BLESSING FOR BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

***HYMN**

Ho, All Who Thirst

No. 479

You are invited during the hymn, to come up to the font, to dip your fingers in and splash around in remembrance of your baptism. You're also invited to approach one of the prayer stations to receive a blessing. And, of course, you're welcome to remain where you are and sing and listen and pray.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

(Please sign the Friendship Register found at the end of the pew. Complete information, including your email, and pass pad along to those worshipping with you.)

*Prayer of Dedication

Offertory *Alleluia* Tomlin

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.*

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDER (see insert)

CONGREGATIONAL JOYS AND CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God's call for faithfulness, and your invitation to join in!)

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* No. 547

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Glory! Praises!* Boyd

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church



Sunday, January 13, 2019
Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

4111 Connecticut • St. Louis, MO 63116 • (314) 664-5525

office@oakhillpcusa.org (office)

www.oakhillpcusa.org

WORSHIP NOTES:

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

The Baptism of the Lord is closely related to Epiphany and should be considered in relation to that feast. Jesus' ministry to bring in God's rule was inaugurated in his baptism. As he came out of the water, the Spirit rested on Jesus and a sign of God's approval was heard. On this day, we celebrate not only Jesus' baptism but our own as well, for our baptism is rooted in Christ. Baptism joins us to Christ and his church, and with all of the baptized we are called to share in Jesus' ministry. In the waters of baptism we are buried with Christ, cleansed of our sins, and raised to share in his resurrection. The Spirit is given to us and we are declared the children of God.

- An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, p. 148)

Presbyterians describe baptism as a sign and seal of the covenant of grace made by God through Jesus and extended to us. In baptism, God claims us as beloved children and members of Christ's body, the church, washing us clean from sin as we renounce the power of evil and seek the will and way of God.

Presbyterians have recognized baptism as one of two sacraments initiated by Christ in Scripture [the other is Communion]. All four Gospels report the baptism of Jesus by John in the Jordan River (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:29-34). When we are baptized with water in the name of the Trinity, we share in Christ's own baptism.

Presbyterians celebrate baptism as a communal act of public worship. In the Middle Ages, baptism came to be an increasingly private, family affair, separated from worship. The Protestant Reformation sought to change that, arguing that the power of baptism did not come from the act itself but from its connection with the promise of God conveyed in Scripture. That's why Presbyterian baptism is always accompanied by the proclamation of the Word in the context of public worship. Luther and Calvin also insisted that baptism be followed by ongoing instruction in the faith, particularly through the study of the Bible and catechisms.

-An excerpt from "What Presbyterians believe: the sacrament of baptism" originally published in *Presbyterians Today*, but now available at www.pcusa.org.

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church

Rev. Erin Counihan, Pastor

Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers, Parish Associate

Mrs. Susan Brown, Minister of Music

Ms. Annie Girresch, Director, AMEN St. Louis

Ms. Carole Adams, Secretary

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday, 12:00 noon in writing.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

January 13, 2019

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Worship
	Following Worship	Time of Fellowship (and snacks)
Monday	7:45 – 8:00 a.m.	Prayer Pause
	6:30 p.m.	Tower Grove South Neighborhood Association Block Captains Meeting in the Theleos Room
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	La Leche League in the Nursery
	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study in the Faith and Fellowship Room
	6:30 p.m.	Tower Grove South Neighborhood Association Meeting in the Large Assembly Room
Friday	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Open Gym Night

We welcome you to worship at Oak Hill. We greet everyone in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and celebrate the gift of God's incarnate love through our worship and service.

We hope you will stay and join us for a time of fellowship after worship today. We'll gather downstairs for a potluck lunch. All are welcome.

For more information about what's happening at Oak Hill, don't forget to check out our website at www.oakhillpcusa.org.

Today's Liturgist is **Valery Welch**. Greeters are **Lucie and Millie Crittenden**. Ushers are **Donna Cook, Heather Macarthur, Dena Roper, and Rick Soles**. Nursery Caregivers are **Bertie and Scott Stanford**. The **Evangelism and Membership Committee** is hosting the time of fellowship in January.

As a church family, we shall be praying this morning and all week for the following members and friends. You may wish to contact them to indicate your interest and ask if they have any special prayer concerns.

David Harris
Sandy Kay
Bev and Don Shockley

If you have a specific prayer request to share with the congregation, please fill out the yellow prayer request form in the pew and place it in the offering plate. For prayers and congregational support during the week, call Pastor Erin or the church office.

Touchy Topics book club had to be rescheduled this month, so there is still time to pick up a copy of James Cone's *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* and join us in discussion. Please watch the bulletin and the Oak Hill Facebook page for an announcement of the new meeting time.

Open Gym Night is coming up on Friday, January 18, at 6:30 p.m. This is for middle and high schoolers, with new adults always welcome as volunteers! We have snacks and pizza and fun times playing sports, games and sometimes there's a mean game of Uno going on! Not to mention crafts, coloring and puzzles plus snacks! Please contact Dena Roper with any questions.

Service as Worship—that time twice a year where we gather together during the worship time to put our hands and feet in action to serve our neighbors, AS our worship—is on Sunday, January 20. There will be a wide variety of projects including go bags and scarves. Come ready to serve!



There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 27, to receive annual reports from the session and church organizations, including financial reports, and to receive the approved budget for 2019. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Donuts will be served.

MLK Day Youth Service and Learning Blitz – January 21st

9:30-5:00pm.

If you are in middle or high school and would like to join us for the day on MLK Day, please let Pastor Erin know. There will be some service, some learning, some eating, and some foosball, for sure! Hope to see you there! Adult volunteers also welcome.

Please sign the Photo Release! Sometimes we take pictures at Oak Hill events and programs to use in our communications and on our website and social media pages. In the back of the sanctuary there is a YES photo release for those who are comfortable with their picture being taken and shared, and there is a NO photo release for those who would prefer not to have their picture taken or shared. We're hoping to have everyone sign the release THIS MONTH. Please stop by the back of the sanctuary and sign one of the two clip boards, according to your preference. This is for adults and children. Thanks!

Building Bunk Beds: Take Two

We had a fabulous turnout on December 30 for our first AMEN House Bunk Building Session. Join us again for Round Two on Monday, January 21 at 9:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Annie at amenstlouis@gmail.com.

Offering envelopes for 2019 with your name on them are available on the table outside the sanctuary by the chairlift and may be picked up at any time.

Help feed Hungry College Students! Support Presbyterian campus ministry in St. Louis with homemade Sunday dinner. UKirk gathers on Sunday evenings at Trinity Presbyterian - 6800 Washington Ave - for dinner, fellowship, and worship. We gather to be fed in body and spirit (dinner at 7:15 and worship at 8). If you'd like to prepare a meal for us (to be dropped off that evening or at another time coordinated with Pastor Miriam), learn more and sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054da8af2babf85-ukirk3>

UKirk is hiring! As our ministry has grown, we are in need of administrative help. Here is a job description for our new part-time position that we're calling a "ministry associate." Here is the link to the document on our website.

http://www.ukirkstl.org/uploads/5/6/8/7/56879897/ukirk_-_stl_ministry_associate_ad.pdf?fbclid=IwAR281h_eqFVuN-ZsOFx6tPy9WVuOB5oB84ExiHruuOaElB8oaH8Y41Yw3tc

**Reverend Miriam Foltz, Pastor of UKirk - St. Louis
Presbyterian Campus Ministry, www.ukirkstl.org**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But 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. ²When 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. ³For 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. ⁴Because 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. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I 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— ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

*Leader: This is the Word of the LORD;
People: thanks be to God!*



SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:15-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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."

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and 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."

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SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Litany of Ordination and Installation

Leader: There are different gifts,

People: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

Leader: There are different ways of serving God,

People: But it is the same Lord who is served.

Leader: God works through different people in different ways,

People: But is always God's way shining bright!

Leader: Each one of us is given a gift by the Spirit,

People: To use it for the common good.

Leader: Let us not lack for enthusiasm, but be ardent in spirit,

People: Serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, patient in suffering, constant in prayer, supporting one another, and welcoming all.

Presentation of Elder: Mme. Moderator, on behalf of the congregation, I present LeAnne Smith to be ordained and installed as an elder.

The Rite of Ordination and Installation

The Congregational Affirmation

Elder: Do we, members of Oak Hill, accept LeAnne as an elder of this church, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation, to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Response: We do!

Elder: Do we agree to encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is head of the church?

Response: We do!

The Prayer of Ordination and The Laying On Of Hands

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