



Grove Presbyterian Church

Worship Service

Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021 10:15 AM

Worshippers present in the sanctuary are invited to hum or read the text silently while the musicians sing the hymns and responses. Please be sure cell phones are off or on airplane mode. Please wear a mask.

Welcome

Announcements

Prelude arranged by Lorie Line

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Call to Worship

One: The world is dark and cold.

All: We look for ways to prepare the way.

One: The world is hungry for righteousness.

All: We look for ways to prepare the way.

One: The world yearns for your love.

All: We look for ways to prepare the way.

Gathering Hymn

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

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Prayer of Confession

Sometimes, O God, we forget people, or we toss them aside – the difficult ones, the needy ones, the ones that are hard to spend time with, the ones who confront us. And sometimes when we do things like that, it's not really about the other people, but about us. We are uncomfortable, or we feel guilty, or we follow brighter, shinier people, or we worry about what will make us look good. We are in such desperate need of your forgiveness. Help us to be better, and to see more clearly, and to care more thoroughly. In Christ we pray. Amen.

~Silent Confession~

Assurance of Pardon

One: In God's love and mercy, we are given opportunity each day to be forgiven and share the good news.

All: In the name of Christ, you are forgiven, go therefore and share the good news!

Passing of the Peace *(air waves, no touching)*

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Understanding

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"Unlikely Messenger"

Musical Offering

by Keith and Kristyn Getty

“Don’t Let Me Lose My Wonder”

*I’ve seen days melt into nights in circles of lights,
I’ve watched a spider spin a star
between the window box flowers,
I’ve heard you laugh and cry in a single sigh,
And a story form within.*

Don’t let me lose my wonder...

*I saw her broken dreams inside but helping others fly,
I saw his eyes without a doubt
though other lights faded out,
And though her calling roared, such graciousness poured
From the vision of her soul.*

Don’t let me lose my wonder...

*A baby cried through the dark beneath a jeweled spark,
I knew Your voice upon the hill
and heard my lostness still,
I found my home in the light
where wrong was made right
And You rose as the morning star.*

Don’t let me lose my wonder...

Lord’s Prayer

**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.**

Sending Hymn

by Jim Strathdee

"I Am the Light of the World"

***Chorus:* I am the light of the world;
You people come and follow me.**

**If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.**

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone;
When the kings and the shepherds
Have found their way home,
The work of Christmas is begun. *Chorus***

**To find the lost and lonely one,
To heal the broken soul with love;
To feed the hungry children
With warmth and good food,
To feel the earth below the sky above. *Chorus***

**To free the pris'ner from all chains,
To make the powerful care;
To rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
To see God's children ev'rywhere. *Chorus***

**To bring hope to ev'ry task you do,
To dance at a baby's new birth;
To make music in an old person's heart,
And sing to the colors of the earth. *Chorus***

Blessing

Choral Blessing

African American Spiritual

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Postlude

by William Stickles

“Postlude (Christmas)”



**Flowers today are given to the glory of God, in
thanks to our Elders and Deacons**

Participants in today’s service: Christian LaMotte (worship leader), Eric Deeter, Cathy Sanders (music), Eric Deeter (children’s sermon), Scott Lawvere (audio/video), Joy Christian (organist), Bryan Holmes, CP (pulpit supply)

Permissions and attributions

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“I Am the Light of the World” is based on a poem written by Howard Thurman (1899 –1981) who was an American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader.

As a prominent religious figure, he played a leading role in many social justice movements and organizations of the twentieth century.

Thurman's theology of radical nonviolence

influenced and shaped a generation of civil rights activists, and he was a key mentor to leaders within the civil rights movement, including Martin Luther King Jr.

Thurman served as dean of Rankin Chapel at Howard University and dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University. In 1944 he co-founded the first major interracial, interdenominational church in the United States.



Detail from a stained glass window featuring Howard Thurman at Howard University's Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel

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