

# BAPTISM OF THE LORD



## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 14, 2018  
10:45 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
Bryan, Texas

### GATHERING

#### GREETINGS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

#### WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND MEMBERSHIP

*(Please take a moment to sign the fellowship folder and pass it to your neighbor. If you are seeking a church home, please read the announcement in the insert related to Christian discipleship & church membership.)*

#### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

#### OPENING SENTENCES AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

adapted from Mark 1:1-9

A voice cried out in the wilderness:

**"Prepare the way of the Lord."**

A voice came from heaven,

**"You are my Son, my Beloved; with you I am well pleased."**

A voice calls to us now,

**Inviting us to recognize the holy in our midst.**

**Sender of Good News, you appointed the prophets to proclaim the coming of your Son. You delivered your very Word in flesh. You sent your Son to be baptized at the Jordan by your messenger, John. Jesus commissioned the disciples to share the good news of salvation with the world. May we, disciples of Jesus, beginning from worship together, reach out to the world and both speak and serve according to the good news of the love of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.**

\* HYMN No. 482

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

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\* *Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Text in **bold face type** is to be read by all.*

\* CALL TO CONFESSION, PRAYER OF CONFESSION, ASSURANCE OF PARDON, AND JOYFUL RESPONSE

Confident in God's steadfast mercy, let us confess our waywardness and sin before God.

**Author of all stories, you charge us with communicating and sharing your message of love with all. We confess hesitating to proclaim the gospel. We're afraid that your love—which overcomes death—might overwhelm some, so we avoid the discomfort of sharing an unsettling gospel. We await more appropriate, convenient situations which suit our criteria. From your mercy, forgive us all our sin. Fill us with courage that your faithful witness can be effective like the mighty waters of a great river . . .** *(We pray in silence.)*

This is the good news of the gospel:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 581

Glory Be to The Father

GLORIA PATRI

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 606

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE WORD

YOUNG DISCIPLES' TIME

*(Child care is available as early as 9:20am for infants in Room 108. While children are encouraged to remain for the entire worship service, parents may take toddlers and preschoolers to Room 103 of the 31st St. hallway for supervised activities during the remainder of the worship service. Pagers are available.)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:4-11

Pew Bible, N. T., pp. 34-35

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\* HYMN NO. 479

Ho, All Who Thirst

JACOB'S WELL

GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

Baptism as Symbolic of Revelings Yet to Come

\* STATEMENT OF FAITH

*Book of Order, W-2.3006*

**Baptism enacts and seals what the Word proclaims: God's redeeming grace offered to all people. Baptism is God's gift of grace and also God's summons to respond to that grace. Baptism calls to repentance, to faithfulness, and to discipleship. Baptism gives the church its identity and commissions the church for ministry to the world.**

ANTHEM

Take My Hand

Don Besig; Nancy Price

*When my life is filled with trouble and my faith seems hard to find; when I feel I can't go on for one more day; find the strength I need. Help me follow where You lead. Lift me up, precious Lord, show the way. Precious Lord, take my hand; give me hope, help me stand. Dry my tears, calm my fears, make me strong. Through the storm, through the night, help me walk in Your light. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me on. When the road seems dark and lonely, and I know I've lost my way; when I feel I'm growing weak and can't go on, ; keep me safely in Your sight. Help me choose the path that's right. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me on. When I am weary, take my hand. Take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand.*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Wondrous and eternal God: We know you as the Giver of all good gifts; and, having received from your incredible generosity, we thank you for the scope of creation and for its magnificence:

**from snowcapped peaks to white foamed waves, from tiny blossoms to tall timber, from crawling snails to darting hummingbirds.**

We thank you for sacrifices, either great or small, either deliberate or spontaneous; for inspiration, either long-term or momentary;

**for birth and growth; for learning and healing; and for love, whether sensed and appreciated, or discounted and ignored.**

We thank you for your grace through the ages, even spent in the life of Jesus: who was born into last-choice surroundings amid adversity; who was, thirty years later, executed upon an Empire’s cross.

**We praise you for the liberation of his being beyond the boundaries of death and a tomb, and for the Spirit of Christ making life new in every time and place.**

Today, as we remember Jesus’ own baptism, we express our gratitude to you for the generous and grace-filled love which claims and baptizes us. We thank you for traditions and communities of faith that witness to your compassion and steadfastness, and to your prophetic expectation of equity and justice for all. We thank you for this congregation—past and present—and the witness of each person, who gives of self, means, time, and talent for serving you both within this church and beyond—locally, regionally, and globally.

**We have, in the past year, received many blessings of healing, outreach, sacrifice, reciprocity, and caring. We have experienced many occasions of smiles, tears, challenge, and laughter through interaction with friends and neighbors, those we know well, and those with whom we are acquainted only briefly.**

Receive, also, our intercessions, O Author of Mercy and Source of Peace: For all who are burdened in any manner; for all who prefer intimidation to cooperation; for all who grieve and are forlorn; for all who are discouraged and exhausted; for all who yearn for relief; wisdom; respect; partnership; recovery; purpose; renewal; and rest.

**Respond to each need for health and wholeness as only you can, hearing, as you do, O God, the prayers each one of us presents before you in these moments of silence.** *(We pray in silence.)*

As you have gathered to yourself all who have lived and died, and as you yet wondrously abide in the Land of the Living, hear us again today, as Jesus taught disciples to pray:

**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

Lord, When You Came to Jordan  
*(See insert for text and music.)*

AURELIA

\* CHARGE AND BLESSING

Go into the world proclaiming the good news of the gospel!

**We will be witnesses to the story of God’s unfailing love for all made known in Jesus Christ! Hallelujah!**

\* POSTLUDE

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# A WARM WELCOME!

*We are delighted to have you worship with us today.*

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## WORSHIP NOTES

### PREACHER

Rev. Ted Foote

### LITURGISTS

Eric Peterson

Denise Peterson

### USHER CAPTAINS

Eileen Peters; Harold Wert

### USHERS

Janice Bradshaw; Mary Haney;  
John Halsell; Keith Halsell

### MUSICIANS

Steve Gentry, *pianist*

Chancel Choir

David Kipp,

*Director of Music Ministries*

### COVER ART

"Baptism of Jesus"

By He Qi

### FLOWERS

With thanks to God  
for Mary Ann completing  
95 years as of January 1, 2018

By Milton Thompson

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In loving memory of

Danny Lefner

By Nancy Robertson & Family

## LITURGICAL BANNERS

Pulpit side: Cross

Organ side: Fish

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## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### BAPTISM OF THE LORD, JANUARY 14

9:20am Sunday Church School-VC \*

10:45am Worship-S \*

6:00pm Circle VII-13

6:00pm Youth (GR 7-12) Fellowship-CCF/403

### MONDAY, JANUARY 15

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

9:30am Circle V-Home of Linda Witherite,  
303 Sapphire Dr, College Station

10:15am Staff Meeting-L

5:30pm The Bryan Group of AA-13

5:30pm Christian Education Committee-L

7:00pm Handbells Rehearsal-BR

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

11:30am Church Ladies Lunch & Fellowship-Abuelo's, College Station

3:30pm Prayer Partners | CareTeam-L

6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal-S

6:00pm Wednesday Night Fellowship & Dinner-local restaurant  
(contact Ellen Weichert, eweicher96@gmail.com)

7:00pm Youth (GR 7-12) Bible Study resumes-401

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, JANUARY 21

9:20am Sunday Church School-VC \*

12:00pm NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

5:00pm Concerts on Carter Creek presents The Neave Trio-S/P\*

6:00pm Youth (GR 7-12) Fellowship-CCF/403

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First Presbyterian Church | 1100 Carter Creek Parkway | Bryan, Texas 77802

PH. 979.823.8073 | FAX. 979.822.7063 | Website: [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org) | Email: [fpc@fpcbryan.org](mailto:fpc@fpcbryan.org)

Find "First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, Texas" on FACEBOOK

## Lord, When You Came to Jordan (closing hymn)

1. Lord, when You came to Jor - dan And asked to be bap - tized, What  
2. Was this God's crown - ing mo - ment Of all You had be - come, The  
3. Faith rests con - tent with ques - tions Of when and why and how, But  
was Your vow and vi - sion Of love and sac - ri - fice? Was  
Spir - it's power and bless - ing: "Go now, You are My Son"? Did  
craves the gift of see - ing What God is do - ing now, Lord,  
there a sud - den splen - dor Of proph - ets, priests, and kings, A  
scrip - ture join with scrip - ture In words of sharp sur - prise: "The  
bring us to our Jor - dan Of new - ly o - pened eyes, Through  
wind that stirred the wa - ters, A blur of might - y wings?  
Lord's Mes - siah shall con - quer, Re - ject - ed and de - spised"?  
love, im - mersed in liv - ing, As You were once bap - tized.

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**NEW MEMBERS** may be received any Sunday by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or transfer of membership. If you feel led to inquire about becoming a church member or deepening your commitment as a disciple of Jesus Christ, please indicate your desire on the fellowship folder. You may also call the church (979.823.8073) or email Pastor Ted Foote (tfoote@fpcbryan.org). He will be glad to arrange a mutually convenient Sunday when you can be received by the Elders and introduced to the congregation.

At the conclusion of worship today, Rev. Foote will be in the Narthex.

**CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP.** Worship clipboards with lectionary related activity sheets are available on the tables in the Narthex and also the hallway leading to the office. For those younger than 5, a loving childcare staff is available in the nursery. A pager system is provided to keep you in touch, should you be needed during the service. If you are unfamiliar with our building and need assistance, an usher will be pleased to help you. Also, two rocking chairs are located in the narthex, where the worship service can be heard via a ceiling speaker. **LARGE PRINT HYMN BINDERS** are available at each entrance to the sanctuary. **ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available in the narthex. Please help yourself or ask an usher for assistance.

**CONCERTS ON CARTER CREEK.** All are invited to the sanctuary on Sunday, January 21, at 5:00pm for the first concert of the new year featuring **The Neave Trio**—who have been enjoying tremendous international success on concert series and at festivals worldwide. The ensemble members—**violinist Anna Marie Williams, cellist Mikhail Veselov, and pianist Eri Nakamura**—hail from the United States, Japan and Russia. The program will feature selections from composers Haydn, Brahms, and Piazzolla. The concert is free and child care is provided. A reception follows the concert.

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The next issue of the newsletter, The Chimes (incl. the February Calendar), will be distributed on **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24**, This issue will cover news from February 1-14.

For the newsletter, announcements, upcoming bulletins, and updates, visit the church website: [www.fpcbryan.org](http://www.fpcbryan.org).

Stay connected with others in this community of faith at **CHURCH UPDATES**, FPC-Bryan's online tool for church-related announcements, needs, and prayers. Login and create your password-protected account at <https://fpcbtch.churchupdates.org/login>.

## First Presbyterian Church is looking for those who love to extend warmth and hospitality. Are you willing to usher?

Ushers and greeters are a welcoming presence, a friendly handshake, and a smile to all when they arrive to worship at First Presbyterian Church of Bryan. They also help to maintain a warm and secure environment for worshippers – familiar and unfamiliar faces – during the worship service. Children, youth, and adults are invited to serve.

Volunteering doesn't get much easier than this – you're already here for worship – all you have to do is arrive a little earlier to prepare the sanctuary for worship, be ready to greet when worshipers arrive, and remain watchful and attentive during the worship service for any congregant needs. If you would like to serve in this ministry of hospitality, please print your name next to the dates below that you are available and provide us with your contact information to follow-up. Invite your child(ren) and grandchild(ren) to serve by your side – what a great teaching moment!

A total of four ushers/greeters are needed each Sunday. I can usher on the following Sunday(s):

|                |    |       |          |
|----------------|----|-------|----------|
| February       | 4  | _____ | (need 1) |
|                | 11 | _____ | (need 2) |
|                | 18 | _____ | (need 1) |
|                | 25 | _____ | (need 3) |
| March          | 4  | _____ | (need 2) |
|                | 11 | _____ | (need 4) |
|                | 18 | _____ | (need 4) |
| (Palm Sunday)  | 25 | _____ | (need 4) |
| (Easter) April | 1  | _____ | (need 4) |
|                | 8  | _____ | (need 4) |
|                | 15 | _____ | (need 2) |
|                | 22 | _____ | (need 4) |
|                | 29 | _____ | (need 4) |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to be contacted by:      PHONE – voice       PHONE – text       EMAIL

*Thank you for your time and talent.* The Worship Committee

**Please place your completed form in the offering plate,  
notify Beverly Spencer, 979.846.3428 or [samraybev@mac.com](mailto:samraybev@mac.com), or  
Karen in the church office, 979.823.8073 or [office@fpcbryan.org](http://office@fpcbryan.org).**