

Remind us of the mighty community in heaven and  
on earth to which we all belong....*silent prayer*  
God grant us peace. Amen."  
*Assurance of forgiveness and love*

Hymn "When Jesus Came to Be Baptized" VU 100

Reflection

Communion Hymn "As We Gather at Your Table" VU 457  
The Sacrament of Holy Communion insert

Closing Hymn "When I Go Down to the River to Pray" insert

We Are Sent Out

Commissioning

All: "A voice from heaven said,  
'These are my beloved children,  
I will be with them always,  
with them I am well pleased'  
We go then, to do that which is pleasing to God."

Congregational Response (Cliff Barrows)

All: "May God's blessings surround you each day,  
as you trust God and walk in his way.  
May God's presence within  
guard and keep you from sin;  
go in peace, go in joy, go in love;  
go in peace, go in joy, go in love."

The Blessing Three-fold Amen.  
Postlude

Steveston United Church  
Sunday Jan 8, 2023 10:00 am  
Rev. Brenda Miller

Baptism of the Lord



We Gather as God's People

Church Life Reminders Celebrations and Prayer Requests

Lighting the Christ Candle and the Candle for Peace  
All: "Let the Light of Christ fill this space. Amen"

We Welcome One Another in the Name of the Risen Christ;  
(please stand if comfortable)

One: Every second of every minute, every minute of every  
hour, every hour of every day -

All: is God's.

One: Every breath we take, every heart that beats,  
every song, every tear -

All: is God's. ..cont'd

One: Gift of the Creator. Gift of the Christ.  
Gift of the Spirit-Alive! Gift of God.

All: And so we are joyful, grateful, thankful.  
We come here to worship God.

#### Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: Rejoice and be glad! God has given us new life.  
The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Opening Hymn "I Am the Light of the World" VU 87

Opening Prayer *(please be seated)*

All: "Like Jesus came to the Jordon, we come to the  
water, O God, seeking refreshment and cleansing.  
Putting aside the stuff of our humanity,  
we pray that you will name us as your own. Amen."

Prayers of the People *refrain VU 391*  
*(please remain seated)*

All: "God, reveal your presence: as we now adore you  
and with awe appear before you.  
Here in this your temple: all within keep silence,  
gather now with deepest reverence.  
You alone God we own, you, our God and Saviour:  
praise your name for ever."

#### Offering Invitation

Offering Refrain *(please stand if comfortable)* VU 541

All: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit; One. Amen."

#### Offering Prayer of Dedication

All: "Generous God, like the sun draws water from the earth  
so that it may return as snow and rain, so your love  
moves us to return that which you have given us.  
May our offerings express our love for all. Amen"

#### Special Music

##### We Hear God's Word

Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 42:1-9 p.584,585 pew Bible  
Christian Scripture Matthew 3:13-17 p. 784,785 pew Bible

One: The word of God for the people of God.  
All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Refrain VU 37

"Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.  
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!"

#### Invitation to Confession

Our prayer:

"Holy God, we ask you to forgive the sin that might  
mingle with even our holiest actions.  
Forgive us for the ways in which we have hurt and  
neglected others.  
Forgive us if we have prayed for unity and done nothing,  
or very little, to help bring it about, preferring prayers  
to action, fantasies to hard reality.  
Forgive us, and help us discern what is important.

Be active, be disturbing, be empowering in us and your  
church family throughout the world. ..con't'd