



January 8, 2023 - 10:30 AM  
*Baptism of the Lord / First Sunday after the Epiphany*

## Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**P: And also with you!**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude

Dr. Craig Ralston

**(Please stand as you are able)**

Call to Worship

L: In the beginning, at creation, the Spirit hovered  
over the waters of the deep.

*Gen. 1:1-2*

**P: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth  
and humankind.**

*Gen. 7:7*

L: God caused the waters to part so that Israel could  
Cross from slavery to liberation.

*Exod. 14:21*

**P: God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.**

*Luke 1:42*

L: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples'  
feet in water.

*John 13:5*

**P: Drinking water from a well, Jesus met a  
Samaritan woman,  
the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.**

*John 4:29*

L: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

**P: God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn in a  
large family. Praise be!**

*Rom. 8:29*

L: Let us worship God!

**(Please remain standing)**

Opening Hymn #398

*Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN

**(Please be seated)**

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of all glory, you look from heaven  
and see us as we are –  
not worthy to kneel at your feet,  
not ready to welcome your way.  
Forgive us, gracious God.  
In Christ, stoop down to save us;  
loosen the ties that bind us to sin  
and set us free to love and serve you;  
in Jesus' name.**

*Ps. 29:1; Mark 1:7*

**(Silent Confession)**

L: Amen.

**(Please stand as you are able)**

Gloria Patri, Hymn #670

GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

**(Please be seated)**

Anthem

*Like a Dove*

Carmine Lappano

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Brightest and Best*

Dr. Craig Ralston

**(Please stand as you are able)**

Doxology, Hymn #668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

## The Word

### Reading of Scripture

*Acts 10:34-43*

<sup>34</sup> So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

### **(Please remain seated)**

Response, Hymn #320

*Spirit Song (vs. 1 only)*

SPIRIT SONG

Prayer for Illumination

### Reading of Scripture

*Matthew 3:13-17*

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

**(Please remain seated)**

Communion Hymn #405

*In Remembrance*

RED

### Words of Institution

L: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.  
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation  
you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**P: Amen, Come Lord Jesus.**

L: In the night in which he was betrayed  
Our Lord Jesus took bread,  
And gave thanks; broke it,  
And gave it to his disciples,  
Saying: Take and eat;  
This is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**P: (Take the bread and eat together.)**

L: Again after supper,  
He took the cup, gave thanks,  
And gave it for all to drink,  
Saying: This cup is  
the new covenant in my blood,  
Shed for you and for all people  
For the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**P: (Take the cup and drink together.)**

## Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer, Hymn #431

*The Lord's Prayer*

MALOTTE

**Our Father which 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

Benediction

Postlude

Dr. Craig Ralston

### **Assisting in Worship:**

Liturgist: Tommy Keenan

Ushers: Beth Wingate, Sharon Tootle, Sandy Stamper, Jean Risdon

Larry & Shirley Culver, Mike Vest & Lolly Platt

Greeter and Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Thorstad

### **Mountain Reformed Church**

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Ryan Gastonguay, Director at Large/Minister of Music: [ryan@mountainreformed.org](mailto:ryan@mountainreformed.org); 928-277-6428

## **Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!**

We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and non-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at [www.mountainreformed.org](http://www.mountainreformed.org) for more information about our church.

## **MRC Family Potluck Sunday January 22nd 1-3pm: please RSVP!**

Our very first all-church potluck will be held at the Meals on Wheels dining hall (inside the Adult Center on Rosser Street) Sunday, January 22nd, 1-3pm.

Coffee, hot water for tea, and cold water will be provided. Plates, cups, napkins, and eating utensils will also be provided. No ovens will be available, so crock pots are encouraged. Please bring a serving utensil for your dish.

All are welcome! For planning purposes, please RSVP via the sign-up sheet at the usher's table or by contacting Lyndi (928-899-2085 [lyndi@milehighlending.com](mailto:lyndi@milehighlending.com)). We need to know: 1) how many attendees will be in your party and 2) what you are planning to bring.

## **Facility Fund**

We are growing! MRC is now looking for a semi-permanent location and we are creating a facility fund to support this effort. If you would like to contribute, please write "facility fund" on your offering envelope.

## **Daily Texts 2023**

The 2023 edition of *Daily Texts* is now available for ordering. Go to [GroundUpGrace.com](http://GroundUpGrace.com) or call 763-260-1507 to order. \$13.95 plus postage. If you would like more information about this text, please contact the Rev. Dr. Dan Storvick ([dastorvick@gmail.com](mailto:dastorvick@gmail.com) or 928-710-0835).

## **Pastor on Call**

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm will be the Pastor on Call for January. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email [eugenegrimm@me.com](mailto:eugenegrimm@me.com) or call 928-925-6057.

## **MRC Name Badges**

If you would like an MRC name badge, please send your name as it should appear to Mary Bricker: [marybricker18@gmail.com](mailto:marybricker18@gmail.com) and she will have one made.

## **MRC Bulletin and Weekly Email**

Would you like to place an announcement in the Sunday bulletin or "This Week at Mountain Reformed Church" email? Please send your info to Emily Lawhead at [ejlawhead@gmail.com](mailto:ejlawhead@gmail.com). The deadline is Monday evening of each week for the coming weekend, but we always appreciate as much notice as possible.

## **Prayer Ministry and Prayer Chain**

Prayer cards are now available at the usher's table. If you would like to be a part of our prayer ministry and prayer chain, please indicate this on your welcome card. Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry, and she will send prayer requests to you by email: [lyndi@milehighlending.com](mailto:lyndi@milehighlending.com). You can also call or text Lyndi at 928-899-2085.

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Prayer shawls serve as a tangible reminder of God's love for those who are walking through difficult times. A prayer shawl can bring great comfort! Shawls can also be given in celebration of milestones such as graduations, weddings, and new babies. Our shawls are lovingly created by Sharon Tom, Barbara Poland, Sheri Simpson, and Debra Ochoa. Please let us know if you have someone who needs a prayer shawl! Recipients do not have to be local. Anyone with a love for knitting or crochet is welcome to participate in this ministry as well. Please email Sharon: [sharonctom@yahoo.com](mailto:sharonctom@yahoo.com).

## **Card Ministry**

Cards for encouragement, celebration, sympathy, get well, birthdays, and more can be mailed out via our Card Ministry. Sheri Simpson, Carolyn Peterson, Lyndi Peacock, and Beth Wingate are coordinating this ministry and can always use donations of cards and stamps. Please let us know if you have someone whose day would be brightened by receiving a card from Mountain Reformed Church! Please email Sheri: [charlieandsheri@gmail.com](mailto:charlieandsheri@gmail.com).

## **Volunteers Needed**

We need volunteers in several areas to help facilitate worship. If you would like to help, please let us know! We need Ushers, Liturgists, Coffee Fellowship Helpers, Setup Assistants, Sound Technicians, and Camera Operators.

## **Flowers**

Sheri Simpson coordinates our Flower Ministry. If you would like to commemorate a special occasion by providing flowers, please ask an usher to guide you to the flower sign-up chart.

**1/1/2023 Worship Attendance: 41**  
**Bank Balances as of 1/3/2023: \$36,624**



... suddenly the heavens were opened to him  
and he saw the Spirit of God  
descending like a dove ...

Matthew 3:16, NRSV