

# BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:30AM, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Liturgist: Gail Lingerman

Asterisk (\*) indicates standing, as able. Bold/colored type indicates text spoken in unison.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP      Responsive

Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River to be baptized.

**We come to be cleansed and made whole.**

Come! Let us witness John's confusion and Jesus' insistence that John baptize God Incarnate.

**We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the kingdom of God.**

Come! Let us hear God declare the truth of Jesus' identity and the truth of our identity as baptized people.

**We come to remember and embody who we are as beloved children of God.**

Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the baptismal waters and salvation life.

**We come to worship God who empowers us through divine presence to live together as the family of God.**

\*HYMN      "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"      **UMH # 64**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH      Apostles' Creed      **UMH # 881**

### OPENING PRAYER      Unison

**Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus, you revealed him to be your Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit, keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful to their calling as your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON      Unison

**We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which your light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again, let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity.

Rejoice, dear friends, this is the good news of our Lord. **Amen.**

### JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

#### SCRIPTURE READING

**Matthew 3:13-17 (NRSV)**

- 13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.
- 14** John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"
- 15** But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.
- 16** And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him.
- 17** And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

MESSAGE "Christ Revealed as God's Beloved" Rev. Dongkue Jee

RESPOND TO THE WORD

\* HYMN "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" UMH # 605

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH # 895

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH # 95

\*PRAYER OF OFFERING Unison

**Faithful and Calling God, continue to draw us into community, into covenant, and into new life through waters of grace and acts of justice. Just as Jesus stepped into the river to stand with us and for us, we bring these gifts today to stand with others—to serve, to uplift, and to proclaim your kingdom. Use these offerings to fulfill your righteousness among us. Help us, your baptized people, to be instruments of healing, hope, and holy change in a world longing for good news. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN "Here I Am, Lord" UMH # 593

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

\* The offering plate is located at the entrance of the sanctuary. Please feel free to participate.

\* Fellowship follows the worship service. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Parlor.



*Welcome to*  
**Mendham United Methodist Church**

[www.mendhamumc.org](http://www.mendhamumc.org)

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



Baptism of Christ, 1470-1475,  
Verrocchio, Andrea del, 1435?-1488 and Leonardo, da Vinci, 1452-1519,  
Uffizi Gallery, Painting, Florence, Italy

**Rev. Dongkue Jee, Pastor**

Cell Phone: 469-544-6373

Church Office: 973-543-6376