

# First Sunday after the Epiphany

9:30AM, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

PRELUDE "Because He Lives"

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP Responsive

When we pass through the cleansing waters of baptism and the troubled waters of our lives, God declares:

**I will be with you.**

When we go through the fires that refine us and the fires that threaten our livelihoods, God declares:

**I will be with you.**

Even when we travel to the far corners of the earth or down into the depths of our souls, God declares:

**I will be with you.**

So come, let us worship God whose love never fails, whose presence never leaves, whose mercies never end.

**Praise be to God who, in the form of Jesus, waded into the waters of baptism to prove God's solidarity with us! Amen.**

\*HYMN "I Am Thine, O Lord" **UMH # 419**

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

OPENING PRAYER Unison

**Eternal Father, 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 forever.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Unison

**Creator of the universe, we gather amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the words of our creator, spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "I have called you by name. You are mine. Do not fear, for I have redeemed you."

**Thanks be to God.**

JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

**Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (NRSV)**

- 15** As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,
- 16** John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- 17** His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
- 21** Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,
- 22** and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**MESSAGE**

**“I Will Be With You”**

**Rev. Dongkue Jee**

**RESPOND TO THE WORD**

\* HYMN

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

**UMH # 454**

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

**Loving God, who guides us with your everlasting presence, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. As Jesus stood with us in the waters of baptism, may these offerings stand as a testament to your love and grace. Use them to bring hope, healing, and transformation to our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

**SENDING FORTH**

\*HYMN

“Are Ye Able”

**UMH # 530**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Lift High The Cross”



*Welcome to*

**Mendham United Methodist Church**

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

10 East Main Street, Mendham, NJ 07945

**First Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025**



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

**Pianist: Janet Bell**

\* 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.