

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

“BAPTISM OF THE LORD / HUMAN RELATIONS DAY”

“LOVE NEVER ENDS: BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST” WORSHIP SERIES

Liturgical Color – Green



## DALLAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

*Don't fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name; you are mine.*

*While he was praying, heaven was opened  
and the Holy Spirit came down on him in bodily form like a dove.*

*And there was a voice from heaven:*

*“You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.”*

Isaiah 43:1b ... Luke 3:21b, 22 (CEB)

\* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE ... *A TIME TO FOCUS OUR THOUGHTS AND HEARTS ON OUR SAVIOR AND LORD, JESUS!*

OPENING PRAYER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

God is with us always and calls us each by name.

**When we pass through difficulties and stress,**

God is with us and calls us by name.

**When we are discouraged and feel lost and alone,**

God is with us and calls us by name, and heals us.

**Blessed be God who knows us and calls us by name.**

God's love never vanishes from us.

**Thanks be to God who is ever faithful to us. Amen.**

\* *When Jesus Came to Jordan*

# 252 (tune # 303 – The Day of Resurrection)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Sky-shattering God,**

**we confess that we have not always paid much attention to the baptism of Jesus,  
but viewed it as a nice story which begins Jesus' ministry.**

**We don't always see ourselves as standing in that long line of those marked for service;  
and therefore it is easy for us to dismiss this as a nice story and nothing more.**

**Yet you have called us by name, knowing each of us, and loving us.**

**We are astonished by this.**

**We know that we have behaved in very unloving ways and in some behaviors  
which do not promote your love and peace.**

**Forgive us for our blindness. Turn us around.**

**Help us to be people who not only recognize the light,**

**but who are willing to live in that light, bringing help to others in your name.**

**For we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY

written by Rev. Dr. Amanda Burr

**We believe in God,  
the creator of all things,  
the giver of life and breath.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
born Emmanuel, God with us,  
baptized and revealed the most beloved Son of God;  
he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness upon himself,  
suffering for us, dying for us  
and being raised from the dead for our sake  
and for the sake of all the world.**

**We believe that he will come again.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
continually poured out refreshing our lives,  
leading us into a new day,  
ever-birthing the church, the body of Christ in the world.**

**This Spirit is our soul companion and counselor of truth  
reminding us of the gift of faith,  
the ever presence of God  
and the promise of eternal life.**

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\* *Glory Be to the Father*

# 70

JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN

***Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.  
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.***

CHILDREN'S CHAT

WHERE CHILDREN BELONG

# 2233 (sing twice)

***This, this is where children belong,  
Welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.  
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:  
This is where children belong.***

TIME OF PRAYER ..... when you hear the words "Lord in your mercy" you respond "**hear our prayer**"

\* *I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry*

# 2051

GOD'S WORD:

Isaiah 43:1-7 ... Luke 3:15-18, 21-22

*(The Liturgist says: "This is the Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... The People respond: "Thanks BE to God"*

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

**"LOVED BEYOND REASON, WITHOUT CAUSE"**

REAFFIRMATION OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

# 50

A PRAYER FOR OFFERING OUR TREASURES TO THE LORD

**Gracious God,  
we come today with joy for your baptism;  
we come with praise for your glory; we come with gratitude for your love.**

**As we offer these gifts to you, send your Spirit upon us,  
that our hands and our hearts may do your work in the world.**

**As we offer our lives to you, bless us with your strength,  
that we may join with you to work for the blessing of peace throughout the world. Amen.**

\* *O Spirit of the Living God*

# 539

DISCIPLES' CHALLENGE:

***DO ALL YOU CAN TO LIVE INTO YOUR BAPTISMAL COVENANT***

\* BENEDICTION

Father Potter of Peckham

\* *My Tribute*

# 99 (twice)