January 14, 2024 Baptism of the Lord Sunday

PREWORSHIP MUSIC GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS PRELUDE

Mr. Kevin Crone

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor:	Water.
All people:	Refreshing, cleansing, nourishing, lifegiving
Pastor:	Water.
All people:	Dangerous, powerful, life-threatening
Pastor:	Water.
All people:	The waters rush over us in our baptism and are filled with the Holy Spirit.
	Alleluia!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

- All people: God of living waters, we thirst for your presence. Fount of every blessing, come among us now as the rain greens the earth, that our spirits might draw life from you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
- HYMNCome, Thou Fount of Every Blessings (Verse 1 & 2)Chalice #16

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: Martin Luther, that 16th century German Protestant Reformer, once said, "We must hold boldly and fearlessly to our baptism, and hold it up against all sins and terrors of conscience and humbly say, I know full well that I have not a single work which is pure, but I am baptized, and through my baptism, God who cannot lie, has bound himself in a covenant with me, not to count my sin against me, but to slay it and blot it out." Believing in this truth, let us confess.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All people: O God, we hear your voice, and we see The Way of Jesus set before us. But its hard, dear God, to try again and again to live up to our baptismal vows and maintain our resolve to be your people in the world. In repentance we ask you to forgive us. Set us once again on a holy path that leads to you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus, God hears our prayers and set before us the Way of Jesus. God calls us and gives us enough grace and mercy to follow The Way.

<u>References</u>

Assurance of Forgiveness – written by Darlene A. Moore, *The Africana Worship Book for Year B*, *Discipleship Resources*, 2007, p. 147.

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PRAISE HYMN Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (Verse 3) Chalice, #16

(*The congregation may be seated, as the children & youth come forward*) **JESUS SAID, "LET THE CHILDREN COME**"

HEBREW READING EPISTLE READING		Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-17
HYMN	In Water We Grow	Chalice, #375
GOSPEL READING		Mark 1:4-11
SERMON	It's Definitely Not a Newt!	Rev. Laura Baker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All people: Our Father, who 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM & BAPTISM RENEWAL

ANTHEMBenediction (Althouse)Chancel Choir

(An Offering Collection Box is located on the table in the back of sanctuary, by the exit door) **OFFERING INVITATION**

Liturgist: As we embark on a new year together, we recognize the abundance of gifts we have to offer - music talent, the melody of laughter, the use of our hands in cooking and making repairs, the use of our minds in problem solving, curiosity, compassion, patience, urgency, spiritual perseverance, financial resources, obedience and courage to act. All these gifts, and others which bear our personal marks, are symbolized in our offerings for the work of the church. Let us commit ourselves in service as we worship God with our offerings and dedicate it all in song and a prayer.

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

DOXOLOGYWe Give Thee But Thine Own (Verse 1)Red Hymnal, #258

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All people: All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another, even as Jesus so taught and lived. Amen.

HYMN	God of Grace and God of Glory	Chalice, #464			
BENEDICTION					
Pastor:	Renew in us, O God, all the gifts of baptism—strength for lif in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, a	5 5 0			

All people: Amen. life; through Jesus Christ who makes us one. Send us in your Name, Holy One.

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POSTLUDE