

An underwater scene with blue water, bubbles, and light rays. The text 'BAPTISM SUNDAY' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font, appearing to be submerged and slightly blurred by the water.

# BAPTISM SUNDAY

**First United Methodist Church**

**Pastor Chris Hardy**

**August 19, 2018**  
**Sermon Series: Reminders of God in the Ordinary**  
**Worship 11:00**

**Greeting & Announcements**

**Gathering Meditation**

*"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."*

– Jesus, Matthew 28:19-20 (GNT)

**Prelude & Lighting of the Candles**

*Your word, O God, reveals your will for our lives. By the power of your Holy Spirit, give us each the wisdom to attend to your call every day, and make us ready to hear and obey. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: There is no longer Jew or Greek,

**People: there is no longer slave or free,**

Leader: there is no longer male and female:

for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

**People: We are children of God through faith.**

**\*Hymn**

"Spirit of the Living God" (x3)

#393

**\*Opening Prayer**

**Almighty God, ruler of all things seen and unseen, through your Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you show your power and mercy. You cast out evil, tear down walls of division, comfort and challenge your people, and show signs of your kingdom coming into the world. Grant that we may lift up the discouraged, strengthen the doubting, and join with all who seek to thank you for your goodness. Glory be to you, O God, who, with the Holy Spirit and the Holy Son, together are worshipped and praised; One God forever. Amen.**

**†Children's Message**

**○ Coins for Kids**

Ruth Jane Emerich

## **A Time of Prayer – Sharing our Joys & Concerns**

The Lord's Prayer

**\*Hymn**

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

#605

### **Baptismal Covenant**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated in Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Lay Leader: I present Aylah Grays and Javonnah Smith for baptism.

Pastor to parents and sponsors:

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

**I do.**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms the present themselves?

**I do.**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

**I do.**

Will you nurture these persons in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example they may be guided to accept God's grace for themselves, to profess their faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

**I will.**

Pastor to congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will your nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Aylah and Javannah before you in your care?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Aylah and Javannah with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.**

Pastor to all:

Let us join together in professing the Christ faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

## Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Eternal Father:

When nothing existed but chaos,  
you swept across the dark waters  
and brought forth light.

In the days of Noah  
you saved those on the ark through water.

After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,  
you led them to freedom through the Jordan  
to the land which you promised.

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

**Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,  
nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples

to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection  
and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare his works to the nations,  
his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit,

to bless this gift of water and those who receives it,  
to wash away her sin  
and clothe them in righteousness through their lives,  
that, dying and being raised with Christ,  
they may share in his final victory.

**All praise you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus  
Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns  
for ever. Amen.**

## Sacrament of Baptism

Aylah Grays and Javonnah Smith

I baptize you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you,  
that being born through water and the Spirit  
you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Now it is our joy to welcome our new sisters in Christ.

### **Through baptism**

**you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit  
into God's new creation  
and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood.  
We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you  
as members of the family of Christ.**

Pastor to congregation:

Members of the household of God,  
I commend these persons to your love and care.  
Do all in your power to increase their faith,  
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you and  
we welcome you in Christin love.**

**As members together with you in the body of Christ  
and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church,  
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in  
the ministries of the church by our prayers, our  
presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness  
through Jesus Christ.**

The God of all grace,  
who has called us to eternal glory in Christ,  
establish you and strengthen you  
that you may live in grace and peace.

**\*Hymn** "Just as I Am, Without One Plea" #357

**Reading of Holy Scripture** Galatians 3: 23-29 (NLT)

**Message** "The True Children" Pastor Chris

**\*Hymn** "In Christ There Is No East or West" #548

**Giving of our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

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

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Triune God, through Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, you bring hope to the despairing, healing to the sick, and release from bondage to all who are oppressed by sin and evil. Through baptism into Christ, you cover us with your love. We thank you that in that flood you wash away all that separates us from you and one another. We thank you for that in this new life we are set free to proclaim good news to others. Direct our gifts to fulfill your purpose as we await the time when all creation is one in your love, by the grace of Jesus Christ and the community of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*Benediction with Three Fold Amen** #898

**\*Hymn** "God We with You till We Meet Again" (vv. 1 & 4) #672

**\*Postlude**

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\*Please stand if you are able

● Each Sunday our children will be accepting coin donations that will benefit a ministry or project of their choosing.



Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us today.

It is our pleasure that you have shared this experience with us.

If you are without a church home, we would be delighted to have you as a part of our Church family. Pastor Chris would be happy to speak with you. God bless you and please come again.

Additional parking is available at Merchants Bank, 303 Penn. Ave., on Sundays and non-banking hours.

**First United Methodist Church**

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**Church Office Hours**

Nancy Plowman, Secretary

Tuesday - 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church Thrift Store**

38 Broadway, Bangor, PA 18013

Telephone: (610) 599-6924

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Liturgist:**

**Organist:** Karen Skorochod

**Next Week's Worship Leaders**

**Liturgist:**

**Lay Leader:** Cheryl Hower