

Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2009 10:00 a.m.

+ + +
Our mission is to change peoples' lives
through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

+ + +
~WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE~

Greeting of Peace

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Call to Worship

L: God of the whirlwind and fire sweeps into our presence
in this hour.

P: **Glory be to God, who strengthens us and blesses all
people with peace.**

L: God, who called all worlds into being, calls forth new life in
us today.

P: **Glory be to God, in whose creative purpose we are
claimed and empowered.**

L: God, whose Spirit unites all people in a common language
of love, confirms God's gifts in us as we gather here.

P: **Glory be to God who created light in which we can walk
in confident expectation.**

Hymn *"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"* **#2120**

Opening Prayer

You call our names, O God, and speak them in love. Each one is known and held by you, affirming our place in your heart. In water, we are bound together; in love, we are made one; in grace, we are renewed. So may we celebrate our belonging, and hear again in the story of Jesus a call for us to follow. Amen.

This Week at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church

The Celebration of Holy Baptism **pg. 39**

*Zachary Matthew Placzek, child of God and of Sonya Dagnese &
Matthew Placzek, grandchild of Jean & Sela Rousseau*

Offertory *"Ready The Way"* *arr: Bob Hurd*

Doxology **#95**

Offertory Prayer

O God, from whom comes all the good things we enjoy, we offer our gifts in the spirit of those long ago who opened costly treasures before Jesus. We give in response to your generosity, identifying with your pity and compassion for victims of violence, poverty, and oppression. May all who are in need experience the unsearchable riches of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit, even as their physical needs are being met. May we be co-workers with Christ, whose sacrifice brought our redemption. Amen.

+ + +
~WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD~

Anthem

Reading of the Word

Gospel *Mark 1: 4-11*

Hymn *"Water, River, Spirit, Grace"* **#2253**

The Message *Rev. Michele Ewers*

+ + +
~WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE~

A Time for Prayer

Lord's Prayer

+ + +

~WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD~

Hymn *“Baptized in Water”* **#2248**

Sending Forth

L: May the peace of God known in this sanctuary, go with you this day. May this peace empower you as you meet adversity.

P: **We carry God’s peace into a troubled world, seeking to be peacemakers wherever we go.**

L: May the blessing of God, who touched believers lips and set them free to sing praises, lift you up each day to use your gifts.

P: **We carry God’s blessing into our daily lives and dare to share the riches entrusted to us.**

L: May the strength of God, seen in wind and fire, set you ablaze with vitality and purpose.

All: **We commit ourselves anew to live by God’s will as it is revealed to us day by day. Amen.**

Closing Song *“Spirit Song”* **#347**

~Bringing the Light into the World~

*Opening Prayer from Seasons of the Spirit
Call to Worship, Offertory Prayer and Sending Forth,
from Whispers of God, By Lavon Bayler*