

# Bayview United Church

2609 Bayview Avenue

Toronto, Ontario M2L 1B5

416-447-5941 office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca

## Worship Service

Zoom Audio Call

Call: 647-374-4685

ID#: 896-7180-8158#

Participant ID: Press #

Password: call or email office

Church Administrator: M. Leone

Music Director: K. Quinton

Minister: Rev. C. Cooper

## Baptism of Jesus Sunday

Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 11:00 a.m.

### Moment of Silent Reflection:

“You have to find what sparks a light in you so that you in your own way can illuminate the world.”

— Oprah Winfrey

“The purpose of life, after all, is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.”

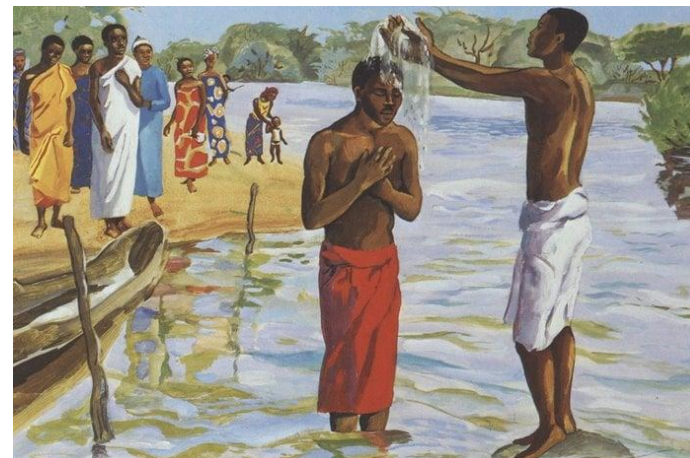
– Eleanor Roosevelt

“There is no greater gift you can give or receive than to honour your calling. It’s why you were born and how you become most truly alive.” – Oprah Winfrey

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the things you did.” – Mark Twain

## Page 2 Praising God

**Prelude** “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”  
H. Baker/trad. Irish melody



### **Words of Welcome** **Acknowledging the Territory**

#### **Call to Worship**

When John was standing on Jordan’s banks,  
We heard him calling for us to change.

When John was standing on Jordan’s banks,  
He called to us to confront the powerful ones of our time.

When John was standing on Jordan’s banks,  
He pointed to us to speak out against the chaos of our time.

When John was standing on Jordan’s banks,  
He was ready to baptize Jesus.

Are we ready to receive the Spirit of baptism?  
We are ready as we stand together on Jordan’s bank.

**Opening Prayer (together)**

**Holy God, on this day when we share the story of the baptism of Jesus, You call us to gather at the River Jordan. May we like John the Baptist be willing to follow Jesus into the living waters to receive Your call to love and serve You and others. May we through our worship seek to renew our baptism as we remember Jesus' baptism. Amen.**

**Hymn (100) "When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized"**

vs. 1, 4, 5

- 1 When Jesus comes to be baptized, he leaves the hidden years behind, the years of safety and of peace, to bear the sins of humankind.
- 4 O Spirit help us be like Christ: to live in love and charity, to walk in truth and justice now, and grow in Christian dignity.
- 5 We praise you, God, source of all life, we praise you, Christ, eternal Word, we praise you, Spirit, gracious gift; your triune presence fills our world.

**Prayer for Grace (together)**

**God of the Living Water, Source of Life, in whom we live and move, we are so thankful for Your love and grace at work in our lives. Help us to be a people who seek Your direction and respond to Your nudging. Guide us in our living and make us**

**sensitive to Your rhythm of life. May Your river of hope transform our world. Amen.**

**Sung Response (377) "Holy Spirit, Hear Us" vs. 1,3**

- 1 Holy Spirit, hear us, help us while we sing; breathe into the music of the praise we bring.
- 3 Holy Spirit, prompt us when we bow to pray; speak within and teach us what we ought to say.

**Listening for God's Word**

**Epistle Reading** Acts 10:34-38; 42-43

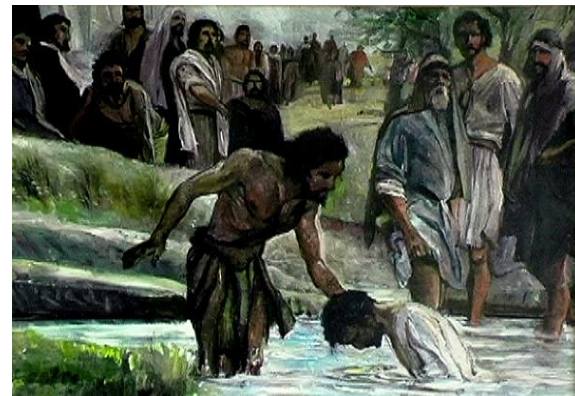
L. Clubine-Ito

(Peter speaks about Jesus and his ministry.)

**Gospel Lesson** Matthew 3:11-17

L. Clubine-Ito

(The baptism of Jesus.)



**Solo**

"Though I May Speak"

Hal H. Hopson

trad. English melody

P. Tibbles Cookson, Mezzo Soprano

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**Sermon** "The Gift of Baptism" Rev. Cooper

**Hymn (82)** "A Light is Gleaming" vs. 1,3,4

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms  
throughout the night, living in the light.  
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love  
is burning bright, living in the light.**

- 1 When light comes pouring into  
the darkest place,  
it hurts our eyes to see the glow.  
Sometimes a word of hope reminds us  
of our fears,  
our memories and tears. **R**
- 3 And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.  
He showed us things we hadn't seen.  
Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine,  
and this will be a sign: **R**
- 4 So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n,  
and let us rise to see the dawn.  
We trust that God is here asparkle and ablaze,  
- warming all our days. **R**

**Responding to God**

**Affirmation of Our Baptismal Faith (unison)**

**I believe in the power of baptism.  
I believe that something deeper than I know  
happens and I am bound forevermore to a life that  
is ancient yet born anew in me.**

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**I believe in the power of baptism to transcend  
time and space and call me to discipleship with  
Christ.**

**The muddy waters of the Jordan River that  
swirled over him merge with the clear waters of  
the baptismal font that splash on me and we  
become one as those waters are one.**

**I am no longer my own or on my own.**

**I believe in the power of baptism to shake the  
heavens and my world.**

**I believe in the power of the Spirit's touch  
and those baptized find themselves  
made new, made beloved, made whole.**

**I believe in the power of baptism  
to call us to ourselves and to Christ.**

**I believe in the power of baptism  
to immerse us in the waters of blessing  
and send us forth, wet and wild with hope,  
to be a blessing ourselves.**

**Hymn (380)** "She Comes Sailing on the Wind"  
vs. 1,2,3,4

**She comes sailing on the wind,  
her wings flashing in the sun;  
on a journey just begun, she flies on.  
And in the passage of her flight,  
her song rings out through the night,  
full of laughter, full of light, she flies on.**

- 1 Silent waters rocking on the morning of our birth,  
like an empty cradle waiting to be filled.  
And from the heart of God the Spirit moved

upon the earth,  
like a mother breathing life into her child.

**(to Verse 2)**

2 Many were the dreamers whose eyes were given  
sight  
when the Spirit filled their dreams with life and form.  
Deserts turned to gardens, broken hearts  
found new delight,  
and then down the ages still she flew on. **R**

3 To a gentle girl in Galilee, a gentle breeze she  
came,  
a whisper softly calling in the dark,  
the promise of a child of peace whose reign would  
never end,  
Mary sang the Spirit song within her heart.  
**(to Verse 4)**

4 Flying to the river, she waited circling high  
above the child now grown so full of grace.  
As he rose up from the water, she swept down  
from the sky,  
and she carried him away in her embrace. **R**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

May God bless you and keep you.

May God's face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with kindness,

And give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of God's hand.

(Irish blessing)

**Choral Amen (MV 216)** "Wherever You May Go"  
**Refrain:** written by David Kai

**Wherever You may go, I will follow,  
And Your people shall be my people too.**

**Wherever You may go, I will follow,  
For I would be faithful, loyal and true.**

Say the word and I will stay,

I will never go away,

We will travel side by side

And God's love will be our guide. **(refrain)**

**Postlude** "Come Holy Spirit, Dove Divine"  
H. Percy Smith - arr. Cindy Berry

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**Thank you** for joining our Zoom audio and video  
worship service today. We hope you found the  
worship service a meaningful experience.

**Many thanks** to J. Brooker and B. Kai for  
coordinating our Zoom audio and video service.  
Thanks to L. Clubine-Ito for reading our scriptures.  
Thanks to K. Quinton, L. Lazar, and P. Tibbles  
Cookson for inspiring us with their music.

**Today, Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>,** Baptism of Jesus  
Sunday

**1:00 p.m.** – Council meeting on Zoom

**Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>,** worship service at 11:00 a.m.  
**1:00 p.m.** – A Congregational Meeting will be held on  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> to vote and choose one option for the  
future of our congregation, as outlined in the Council  
presentation on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Voting will be  
via Zoom and only those members and adherents

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present are able to vote. We encourage everyone to attend this meeting online or by phone.

**Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, Worship Service and Celebration of Holy Communion.** We invite you, when you join the service, to have ready a piece of bread or cracker and a beverage, and together we will share the Lord's Supper.

**2022 Annual Reports** are due on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Please send reports to church office, [office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca). The Annual Meeting will be held on Sun. March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**The 2023 offering envelopes** have arrived at the church. Because of the pandemic we are having difficulty distributing them. If you wish to have your envelopes, please email or call the church office and let us know. We will be arranging a drive-by envelope pickup at the church on **Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> between 10:00 a.m. and 2 p.m.** Please let us know if you will pick them up on that day. If you are a shut-in or unable to pick up your envelopes, please contact L. Clubine-Ito or contact the church to make alternate arrangements. Please note that your envelope number or PAR number has not changed which means you can use e-transfer or mail to send your offering without your envelopes. Please include your envelope number on an e-transfer or cheque. Thank you.

**Prayers and Concerns:** Please remember in your prayers all those in need of hope, comfort and healing.

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**BUC Prayer Group:** These individuals offer confidential prayer support to anyone who is in need of God's healing love, support and compassion in their lives. Prayers may be for a relative, a close friend or yourself. Please email Rev. Cooper at or call R. Shikaze with your prayer request.

You can support Bayview United Church using **e-transfer** from your bank. Decide the amount you wish to donate, follow your bank's instructions & email to: [office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca](mailto:office@bayviewunitedchurch.ca). In the comments section, indicate where you would like your donation to go, for example Local, Mission and Service, Easter, Memorial, etc. If you do not use e-transfer you can always mail your cheque to the church. Thank you for your support of BUC.

**God bless you**, stay well, and we hope you join in for our service next Sunday.



**Have a blessed day!**