

Worship at Maples
Sunday, February 21, 2021

WELCOME

Sisters and brothers in Christ: through the sacrament of baptism God's Spirit has been poured out upon water, water poured over and immersing us, water that flows freely for all who will receive it, water from the streams of God's saving power and justice, water that brings hope to all who thirst for righteousness, water that refreshes life, nurtures growth, and offers new birth. Today we come to the waters, to renew our commitments in each other's presence to Christ who has raised us, the Spirit who has birthed us, and the Creator who is making all things new.

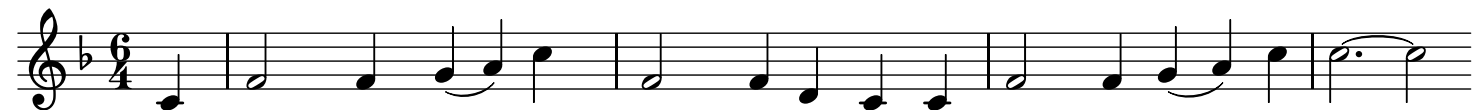
PRELUDE

Allen Sanders

*OPENING HYMN

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days



1 Lord, who throughout these for - ty days for us did fast and pray,
2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend, and did the vic - tory win,
3 As you did hun-ger and did thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,
4 And thro' these days of pen - i - tence, and thro' your Pas - sion-tide,
5 A - bide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,



teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to con-quer sin.
to die to self, and so to live by your most ho - ly Word.
for - ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at last at - tain!

*OPENING PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, For ever. Amen!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Sarah Kirchhoff (Traditions Service)

*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:9-15

SERMON

"Come To The Water"

Rev. Stephen Sparks

BAPTISMAL RENEWAL /Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Leader: And so I ask you, will you turn away from the powers of sin and death?

People: We renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of our sin!

Leader: Will you let the Spirit use you as prophets to the powers that be?

People: We accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves!

Leader: Will you proclaim the good news and live as disciples of Jesus Christ, his body on earth?

People: We confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races!

Leader: Will you be living witnesses to the gospel, individually and together, wherever you are, and in all that you do?

People: We will remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

Leader: Will you receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

People: We affirm and teach the faith of the whole church as we put our trust in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, his only Son and in the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Thanksgiving Over the Water:

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is with us.

People: Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Leader: Let us pray. Almighty God, the life you birthed in us by baptism into Jesus Christ will never die. Your justice never fails. Your mercy is everlasting.

People: Your healing river flows. Your Spirit blows where you will. We cannot stop you, God!

Leader: But sometimes we try. We try to block the flow, we redirect the winds of the Spirit, or we walk so far away from the life-giving Stream that we do not hear its sound, and we forget its power. We parch ourselves.

People: We are dry and thirsty, O God. Come, refresh us!

Leader: Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

People: Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Come upon these waters.

People: Come upon these waters.

Leader: Let these waters be to us drops of your mercy.

People: Let these waters remind us of your righteousness and justice.

Leader: Let these waters renew in us the resurrection power of Jesus.

People: Let these waters make us long for your coming reign.

Leader: Most Holy God, Abba, Father!

People: Glory to you!

Leader: Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord!

People: Glory to you!

Leader: Spirit of fire, Spirit over the waters, Spirit of holiness!

People: Glory to you!

Leader: Eternal God, One in Three and Three in One!

People: All glory is yours, now and forever. Amen!

MEDITATION "Come To The Water"

Allen Sanders

*CLOSING HYMN

"Come Thou Fount"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy
2. Here I raise mine Eb-en - e - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to
grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est
come; and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at
be! Let thy good-ness, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to
praise. Teach me some me - lodious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-
home. Je - sus sought me when a stran-ger, wan-dering from the fold of
thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I
bove. Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of thy re - deem-ing love.
God; he, to res - cue me from danger, in - terposed his pre-cious blood.
love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Sam Jones (Daybreak Service)

Rev. Stephen Sparks (Traditions Service)

POSTLUDE

Bobbie Ross



Maples Memorial UMC

mapleschurch.org

662-895-2279