

**Musical Prelude:** Come Holy Spirit, Dove Divine - H Percy

**Welcome and Introduction to Epiphany**

**Lighting the Christ Candle - Tabitha**

The first light came in a helpless infant.  
It continues to shine among the weak and  
the vulnerable. We light the candle that brings  
renewal to our world.

**Opening Hymn VU # 409 Morning Has Broken**

1. Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the world

2. Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass

3. Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God's recreation of the new day

**Call to Worship**

New life comes out of primeval waters.  
God has blessed  
us with safe passage through troubled waters.  
Living waters bring healing and refreshment.  
God's love is like an ocean of mercy.  
Let us worship God who is the source of all life.

**Prayer of Approach**

God of water and flame, you call us into a love that refreshes. Wash us with hope and bathe us in your grace. Pour your baptismal waters over us again that our faith may burn brighter. Impassioned by your loving care, we resolve to live freely and lovingly as the year unfolds. AMEN

**Hymn VU # 100 When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized**

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 all mankind.

3. He will not quench the dying flame,  
And what is bruised he will not break,  
But heal the wound injustice dealt,  
And out of death his triumph make.

2. The Spirit of the Lord comes down,  
Anoints the Christ to suffering,  
To preach the word, to free the bound,  
And to the mourner, comfort bring.

4. Oh spirit help us be like Christ  
To live in love and charity,  
To walk in truth and justice now,  
And growing 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.

## THE WORD OF GOD

### First Testament: Genesis 1: 1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

### Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.  
The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.  
The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.  
The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.  
The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.  
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say,  
"Glory!" The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.  
May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

### Gospel Mark 1: 4-11

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Message: God's New Age is Dawning

## Prayers of the People

### Offering

Song: We are an Offering

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

Lord use our voices

Lord use our hands

Lord use our lives they are Yours

We are an offering

All that we have

All that we are

All that we hope to be

We give to You

We give to You

### Offertory Prayer.

### Hymn VU # 449 Crashing Waters at Creation

1. Crashing waters at creation,  
ordered by the spirit's breath,  
first to witness day's beginning  
from the brightness of night's death.

2. Parting water stood and trembled  
as the captives passed on through,  
washing off the chains of bondage –  
channel to a life made new.

3. Cleansing water once at Jordan  
closed around the one foretold,  
opened to reveal the glory  
ever new and ever old.

4. Living water, never ending,  
quench the thirst and flood the soul,  
Well-spring, Source of life eternal,  
Drench our dryness make us whole.

### Commissioning

### Blessing

**Postlude:** Haste Zion Written by James Welch Arr. Cindy Berry