

FIRST CHURCH, SARASOTA
Traditional Worship Service
BAPTISM OF THE LORD
JANUARY 10, 2021

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright, Senior Pastor
Michael Stuart, Director of Music/Organist

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CHORAL INTROIT	<i>Behold Now, Praise the Lord</i>	Everett Titcomb
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Donna Maynard, Director of Ministries
OPENING HYMN	<i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty</i>	Hymnal 139 ¹
CHILDREN'S MOMENT		Susan Quigley, Director of Children and Youth Ministries
PASTORAL PRAYER		
LORD'S PRAYER		
CHORAL RESPONSE	<i>Amen</i>	John Rutter
OFFERING OUR GIFTS		
CHORAL ANTHEM	<i>The Majesty and Glory of Your Name</i>	Tom Fettke
SCRIPTURE READING		Mark 1:1-11 ²
THE MESSAGE	Series: Seeking the Truth <i>If Jesus Was the Messiah, Why Didn't He Reign on David's Throne as Predicted?</i>	Rev. Dr. Sam Wright
HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>The King of Love My Shepherd Is</i>	Hymnal 138 ³
BENEDICTION		
THE CHORAL BENEDICTION	<i>A Gaelic Blessing</i> <i>Deep peace of the running wave to you, deep peace of the flowing air to you, deep peace of the quiet earth to you, deep peace of the shining stars to you, deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Deep peace of Christ the Light of the world to you. Deep peace of Christ to you.</i>	John Rutter
PASSING THE PEACE		

¹PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining. God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds. Hast thou not known his sustaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee, fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee. Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed, spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

²Mark 1:1-11 (CEB)

The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son, happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah: Look, I am sending my messenger before you.

He will prepare your way, a voice shouting in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight."

John was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. He announced, "One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

³THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS

1. The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth; and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me; and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me; thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.
5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
6. And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Zoom Book Study with Woody Woodward, Assistant Pastor for Outreach

Adam Hamilton's *Making Sense of the Bible*

Mondays at 7 p.m. beginning January 25 for 8 weeks

(may be extended if participants wish)

Some copies of the book will be available at church (call first). Others are available at Cokesbury.com or amazon.com.

The Bible is the best-selling book in the world, but so many people have questions. If you are upset by some of the stories or can't decide what to think about God and Jesus, this study may answer some of your questions... and maybe ask a few of its own.