

North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church



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A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 9, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: The voice of God resounds upon the water.

Many: **The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.**

One: The Son of God is name, "Beloved."

Many: **And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"**

One: Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.

All: **Let us worship God in holy splendor!**

*Hymn (#475)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

We are precious in your sight,

yet we often forget that we are your beloved.

We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant.

We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world.

We are sorry and we want to change.

Create in us a clean heart,

strengthen our resolve,

reconcile us one to another,

and bless us with your peace. (Silence)

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon

One: Beloved, God forgives our sins!

Know that you are pardoned and be at peace.

All: **Let us go out to love the Lord and serve the world! Amen.**

***Congregational Response (#581)**

Glory Be to the Father

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-7

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Special Music

Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sermon

Baptized for What?

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Hymn (#482)**

Baptized in Water

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead;
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Congregational Response (#606)

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Responsive Prayer of Dedication

One: Lord Jesus Christ:

**Many: Your goodness to us is beyond the reaches of our imagination,
a fullness of love that embraces all of life.**

One: From you we have received grace upon grace.

Many: Accept our offering for the sake of the world.

One: All that we have is yours.

Many: All that we return to you is but a reflection of your love for us.

One: In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn (#761)

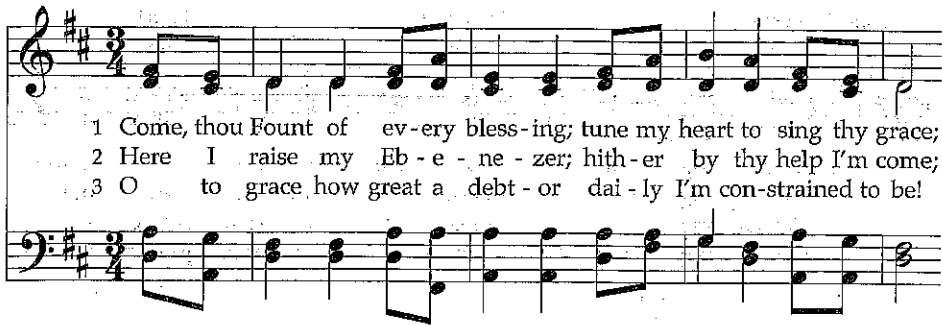
Called as Partner's in Christ's Service

*Charge and Benediction

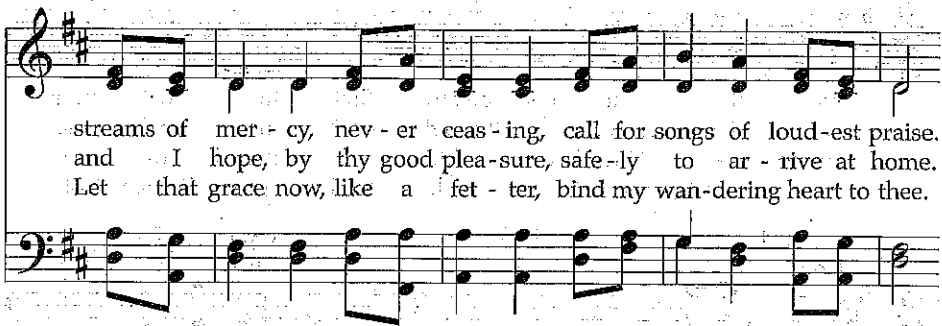
*Postlude

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

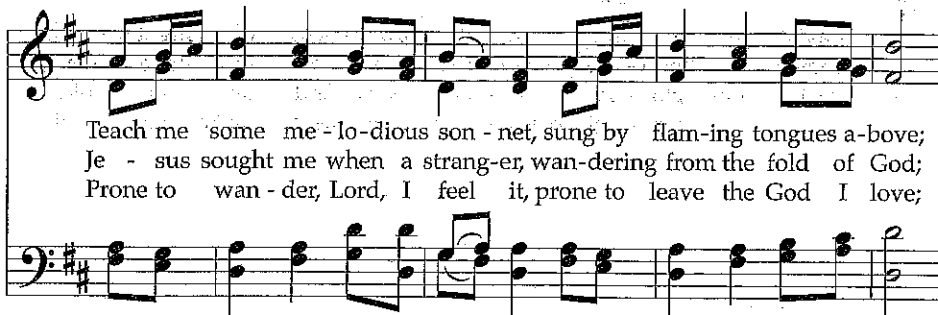
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



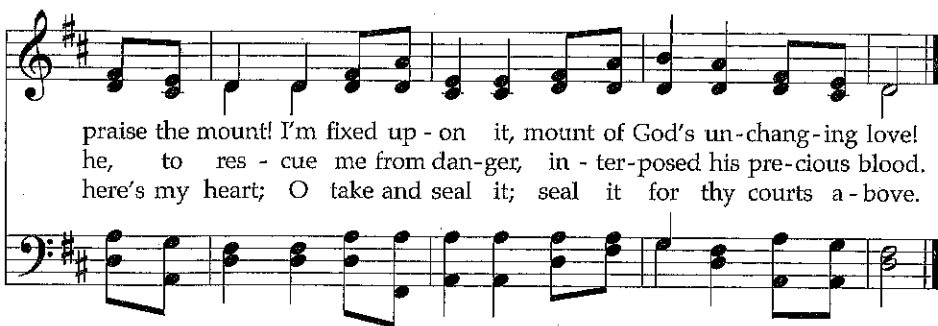
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor; this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

Baptized in Water



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-que-ers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old;
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to - geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair,
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.