

First United Methodist Church

September 13, 2020

11:00 a.m.

SERMON
Building Blocks of Faith: Baptism
Rev. Ben Crismon

Welcome, Visitors and Friends

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" 154

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

INVOCATION

HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory" 577

1. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, (of this hour) for the facing of this hour.
2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, (of these days) for the living of these days.
3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, (kingdom's goal) lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.
4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for thy salvation be our glory ever more, Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, (we adore) serving thee whom we adore.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Yearn" Josh Johnson

Acts 8:26-40 (NRSV)

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

*"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.*

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
The 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;
the third day he rose from the dead;*

*he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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*

GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

OFFERTORY

INVITATION



Vision Statement

We are:

Rooted in Christ;
branching out to friends, known and unknown;
bearing fruit for the kingdom of God.

Sermon Notes:

1. *First, we must understand that God is the primary actor in Baptism.*
2. *Next, we see that Baptism serves as an initiation into new life in Christ.*

The Arkansas Conference

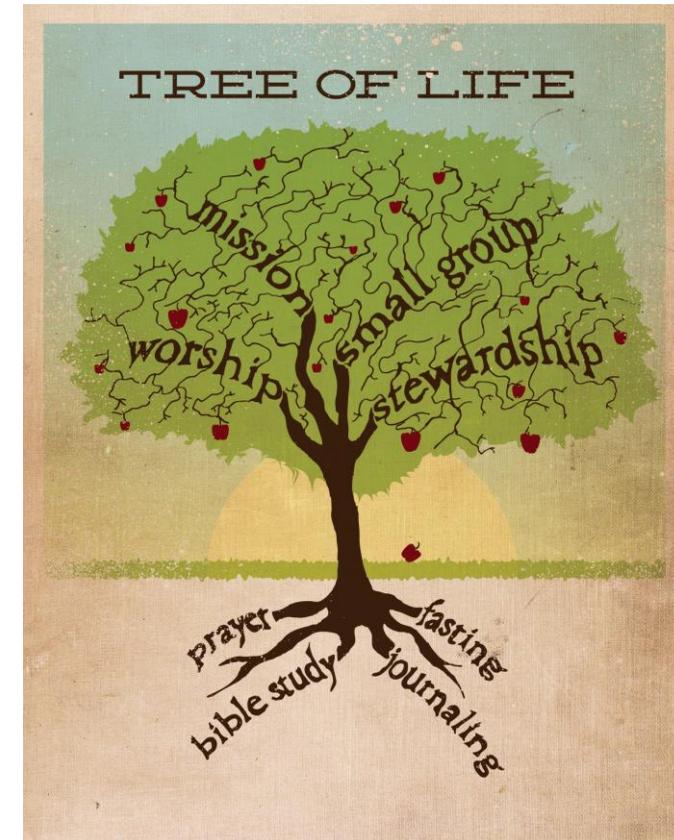
Rev. Gary Mueller, Bishop
Dr. Blake Bradford, District Superintendent

Handicap accessible restrooms are located by the church office.

If there are those present who would like to have information about making this your church home, or if you have a special need, please contact one of the pastors at 501-778-3601 or 501-315-3603

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**200 North Market
Benton, Arkansas**



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