

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP ON JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2021.**

***Keswick & Ravenshoe Pastoral Charge***

Minister: Rev. Calin Lau                      VAM: Rev. Dianne Graves  
Office Secretary: Sandra Dickinson      Property Manager: Ralph Cox (KUC)  
Music Director: Stephen Riches (KUC) & Kathy Anderson (RUC)  
VU – Voices United Hymnbook              MV – More Voices

***BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY***

**We Gather**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**

**Announcements**

**Pass the Peace**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Lighting of the Christ candle**

**Singing of the Lord's Prayer VU 960**

**Call to Worship**

We have come once again to be in the presence of the baptismal waters, so that we may be reminded that God's love seeps into our lives, washes away our fears, and pours forth for all people.

Come, let us worship.

**Hymn: VU 453 Out of Deep, Unordered Water**

**Gathering Prayer** (*in unison*)

God, we ask that you remind us that you are the source of all that gives us life: water, earth, warmth, wind. We take these next moments to be still and breathe in your spirit.

As you quiet your heart, notice the depth and length of your breath. Inhale and exhale. As you inhale, concentrate on the notion of breathing in grace the way we breathe in oxygen.

As you exhale imagine that you can let go of the one thing that you wish to give to God. Set the pace of your breath and set an intention that you can start to offer yourself, your life, to God, a little at a time, with every exhale. Amen.

**Responsive Scripture: Psalm 29 VU 756**

**Hymn: VU 375 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (v. 1, 3, 4)**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 1:4-11 (NRSV)                      *Marilyn Butcher*  
John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the Word of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Reflection "Coming through the Waters"**

**Hymn: MV 115 Behold, behold, I make all things new**

**We Give and Receive our Offering**

These are gifts that we received. Let them be multiplied and accompany the transforming breath of God that reaches every corner.

Offertory Hymn: VU 55 In the Bleak Midwinter v.4

Prayer of Dedication

God who moves in, around and through the waters, we remember you are near and dedicate a gift of gratitude to you, for your use. We have worked to collect and recollect abundance. We have toiled and felt the weight of futility. But we come now in earnest hope and faith to offer what we have, do what we can, and let go of the outcome. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Hymn: MV 150 Spirit God, Be Our Breath

\*Commissioning and Blessing

We may fail; God does not.  
We may end; God does not.  
Bless and be blessed. Amen.

Hymn: MV 213 Take Up His Song (hope & love)

Postlude

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

On Sunday, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Kitty Trill passed away at the age of 87 years. Our deepest condolences to daughter Jackie & family and to all of her friends (especially those at KUC). There was a private family service. Donations to Southlake Hospital or Keswick United Church would be appreciated.

The next Zoom Meeting will be held on Tues., January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10 am. Please join us for our first chat of the year!

We appreciate your financial support for this past year. Your tax receipts for 2020 are available at the office along with the 2021 envelopes. Thanks so much!

*Keswick & Ravenshoe  
United Church  
Baptism of the Lord  
Sunday*



*January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Rev. Calvin Lau*