



Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

“The Voice of the Lord is Over the Waters”

Mark 1:4-11

Reverend Susan P. Boucher

January 10, 2021

We are a vibrant family of faith rooted in God's Word, gathering together to worship and equipped to share the love of Christ in the world.

Welcome

Reverend Susan P. Boucher

Opening Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Blue Hymnal 464

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us, Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

**** Call to Worship**

Sue Brown

Leader: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and God said: Let there be light.

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

Leader: Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

Leader: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

Leader: When Jesus was baptized by John, suddenly the heavens were opened.

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

Leader: And as Jesus was coming out of the water, the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

Leader: And a voice said: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!

** Please stand if you are able

Returning to the Lord through Confession

Reverend Susan P. Boucher

Leader: The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord!
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

People: **Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ.**

Leader: We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another.

People: **We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another.**

Leader: We allow the past to hold us captive.

People: **In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.**

All: **We surrender to you the sins that separate us from you and one another during this time of silence (Silence).**

Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ

Leader: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus, so, in Christ, God speaks to us: You are my child, my beloved; with you I am well pleased. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

Response to Forgiveness

“Lift Up Your Heads”

Red Hymnal 127

Lift up your heads to the coming King,
Bow before Him and adore Him, sing!
To His majesty, let your praises be
Pure and holy, giving glory to the King of kings.

Prayer for Illumination

Sue Brown

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:4-11

Sue Brown

Ministry of Music

“When Jesus Came to Jordan”

Blue Hymnal 72
Sung by Hanna Wo

When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,
He did not come for pardon, But as God’s Holy One.

He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,
To speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.

He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss;
For us and our salvation to die upon the cross.

So when the dove descended On him, the Holy One,
The hidden years had ended, The age of grace begun.

Sermon

“The Voice of the Lord is Over the Waters”

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Profession of Faith

Apostles Creed (Traditional)

Blue Hymnal Page 14

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 Ghost,
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
sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Remembering Our Baptisms

**** Response to Sermon** “Shall We Gather at the River” Purple Hymnal 375 (v. 1,3,4)

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river; soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Reverend Susan P. Boucher

Response to Prayer of Dedication Doxology – “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”
Blue Hymnal 592

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.

Thanksgiving Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Please stand if you are able

Closing Hymn

“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”

Blue Hymnal 561

My country ‘tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died, Land of the
pilgrims’ pride, From every mountainside, Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and
templed hills; My heart with rapture thrills, Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom’s song; Let mortal tongues awake, Let all that
breathe partake, Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.

Our fathers’ God, to Thee, Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing; Long may our land be bright With freedom’s
holy light; Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King.

****Blessing and Charge**

Reverend Susan P. Boucher

Leader: And the people of God say
People: **Alleluia. Amen.**

****Please stand if you are able**

A special thank you to the following people who made today's worship special:
Christi Todd, Neil Snyder, Kristi Morrison and John Wells for helping with the tech.

*Hymnals are indicated for those that may have them at home.

Blue - "The Presbyterian Hymnal"

Red - "Songs for Praise and Worship"

Purple - "Glory to God"

Yellow - "Hymns for the Family of God"

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