



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers

Epworth.faith

Sunday, January 8, 2023

Baptism of Jesus



Welcome to Epworth Worship
Sunday 10 am in-person or



[10 am Blended Worship Order](#)

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***VISION: Explore Faith,
Embrace Community***

***MISSION: Inviting, Belonging,
Connecting, Caring***

All Means All

As a [Reconciling Ministries Network](#) congregation, we welcome all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to share their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



19285 Holland Glade Rd.
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302-227-7743

Epworth.faith



Blended Worship Order

January 8, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Baptism of Jesus

**Welcome & Sharing the Mission & Ministry
of Epworth Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith**

Call to Worship

L: In the beginning as God created life, a
wind swept over the waters,

P: A breath warmed the dark voids, a
Spirit called forth creation.

L: God gave in grace:

P: Let there be light for all to see,

L: Let there be life-giving water for all,

P: Let there be life in the midst of death.

L: Yes, let there be life beyond death as God
invites us to respond, rejoicing!

P: Today we honor God's command to
observe and celebrate the Sabbath.

ALL: And we know – it is good.

HEAR OUR PRAISES

**May our homes be filled with dancing;
may our streets be filled with joy.**

**May injustice bow to Jesus
as the people turn to pray.**

**From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to You.**

**From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.**

**May a light shine in the darkness
as we walk before the cross.**

**May Your glory fill the whole earth
as the water o'er the seas.**

**From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to You.**

**From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.**

**From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to You.**

**From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.**

Morning Prayer

Creator God,
at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan
You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son
and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit.
Grant that all who are baptized in Jesus' holy
name may keep the covenant they have
made,
and boldly confess Christ as Savior of the
World, who with You and the Holy Spirit
lives and reigns, One God, in glory ever-
lasting. **Amen.**

Prayer Response RIVER OF LIFE

**Brothers, sisters, come on down to
that river. Guaranteed you'll never
be the same.**

**There's a fountain flowing from the
heart of the Savior.**

**Bring your sins and all your guilty
stains. Let that River of Life wash it
all away.**

**If you've been searching, carrying bur-
dens, if you've been lost and looking for
a home.**

**If you've been drifting, if something is
missing, you should know that you are
not alone.**

**Brothers, sisters, come on down to
that river. Guaranteed you'll never
be the same.**

**There's a fountain flowing from the
heart of the Savior.**

**Bring your sins and all your guilty
stains. Let that River of Life wash it
all away.**

Kid's Time

Linda BenderHilt, Sunday School Coordi-
nator

Hymn of Preparation When Jesus Came to Jordan

**When Jesus came to Jordan to be
baptized by John,**

He did not come for pardon but as
the sinless 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 Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended, the age
of grace began.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 3:13-17 Rev. Barbara Hoffman, lector

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at
the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John
would have prevented him, saying,
“I need to be baptized by you, and do you
come to me?”

But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now,
for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill
all righteousness.”

Then he consented.

And when Jesus had been baptized, just as
he came up from the water, suddenly the
heavens were opened to him
and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a
dove and alighting on him. And a voice from
the heavens said,
“This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am
well pleased.”

May this scripture inspire us all... §
to walk in the way that leads to life.

WHEN JESUS CAME TO JORDAN (CONT)

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us to keep the vows
we make.**

**This very day invade us, and every bondage
break.**

**Come, give our lives direction, the gift we
covet most:**

**to share the resurrection that leads to Pente-
cost.**

We Pray for Our Pastor & Church

Rev. Barbara Hoffman

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Sermon Response Prophet's Voice

Wild and Lone the

Wild and lone the prophet's voice echoes through the desert still,

calling us to make a choice, bidding us to do God's will:

“Turn from sin and be baptized;
cleanse your heart and mind and soul.

Quitting all the sin you prized, yield your life to God's control.

“Bear the fruit repentance sows:
lives of justice, truth, and love.

Trust no other claim than those; set your heart on things above.

Soon the Lord will come in power,
burning clean the threshing floor:
then will flames the chaff devour;
wheat alone shall fill God's store.

With such preaching stark and bold
John proclaimed salvation near,
and his timeless warnings hold
words of hope to all who hear.

So we dare to journey on, led by
faith through ways untrod,
till we come at last like John to behold
the Lamb of God.

Sharing Our Gifts

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Offertory

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;

Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
You wrap Yourself in light and darkness
tries to hide,

And trembles at Your voice, and trembles at
Your voice.

How great is our God! Sing with me:
how great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great
is our God!

And age to age You stand, and time is
in Your hands;

Beginning and the end, beginning
and the end.

The Godhead, three in one, Creator,
Spirit, Son,

The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and
the Lamb.

How great is our God! Sing with me:
how great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great
is our God!

How great is our God! Sing with
me: how great is our God!

And all will see how great, how
great is our God!

How great, how great is our
God!

Prayers of Response

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

The Lord's Prayer *Sung Responsively*

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

[GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME](#)

God is good all the time – He put a song
of praise in this heart of mine;

God is good all the time – through the
darkest night His light will shine

God is good, God is good all the time.

If you're walking through the valley and
there are shadows all around,

Do not fear, He will guide you; He will
keep you safe and sound.

He has promised to never leave you or
forsake you, and His word is true.

God is good all the time – He put a song
of praise in this heart of mine;

God is good all the time – through the
darkest night His light will shine

God is good, God is good all the time.

We were sinners, so unworthy – still for us He chose to die.

Filled us with His Holy Spirit; now we can stand and testify that His love is everlasting, and His mercies, they will never end.

God is good all the time – He put a song of praise in this heart of mine;

God is good all the time – through the darkest night His light will shine

God is good, God is good

God is good – He's so good, God is good, God is good all the time!

New Worship series Begins next Sunday
Emotions of Change



Next Sunday: January 22, 2023

Emotions of Change Fear and Denial ([Psalm 50:1-8](#) – key verses – 5-6) Change can often trigger our fears and the urge to run away and hide from the reality and necessity of change.

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January 8 Prayer List

**Names printed in Italics indicate additions to our prayer list this week.*

The People of Ukraine
Deaf People of Ukraine
Benjamin Aiken
Cody Arbuthnot & Family
Ruth Ann Arty
Debbie Badro
Will Baker
Beebe Hospital Staff
Lindsay Barnes
Mary Barrett
David Bendekovitz
Ariel Ben-Chrit
Cathy Benson
Mike Benson
Brad Bingham
Willetta Blevins
Pam Bookman
Andy Brangenberg
Ella Breese
Phil Brown
Dondeena Caldwell
Hank Cerelli
John Ciloni
Lou Corrozi
Dawn R
Dawn B
Reilly Damon
Sylvie Drew
Sherry Drexel
Hannah Edwards
Israel Eleager
Christopher English
Dottie Fedorka
Susan Anderson Fermaint
Bob Fetner
Mary Anne Fleetwood
Marion Ford
Diane Frady
Kim Frye
Gail Gingrich
Gina Giusto
Maddie Handley
Hardy Family
Andre Harmer
Gene Harris
Brian Higgins
Ray Hilt
Carolyn Horn
Preston Hulse
Lisa Hutchinson

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Diane Ibahim
Joe Jacinto
Elizabeth Barker Jarvis
Jeff Johnson
Dillon Jones
John & Irma Koch
Sondra Leef
Edna Leminska
Jerry Mahon
Jeannie Marsh
Barbara Martin
Nan Martino
Faith Moyer
Linda Miller
Ana Ramos Meyer
Ed Newman
Donna Pagano
Carrie Paluch
Frank Pandolfino
Ann Paulen
Melania Panteleo
Sandy Pierce
Alicia Popham
George Psaros
Lisa Rahman
LeRoy Reed, Sr.
Robin Reminen
Charlie Reynolds
Denise Rhone
Judy Riech
Cathy Roche
Brenson Rogers
Dorothy & John Sadler
Irene Safrit
Doug Saunders
Rose Schmidt
Susan Schneider
Dawn Selby
Ray Shaffer
Mary Ann Shill
Fred & Sharyn Smith
Ray Sonderfan
Mauria Stein
Gery Tamburello
Pat Thomas
Mary Valenti-Bloom
Will Van Axen
Weiler Family
Wanda Walton-Hummel
Sean Whalen
Courtney Williams
Michael Wills, Sr.

Carol Wine
Dan Wine
Allen Wenker
Susan White
Carol Woodcock
Claire Worrall
Bonnie Wright
Kaleigh Wright
Tommy Yettles
Jean Young
Wayne Young

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

12/19—J.B. & Judy Melson
50+ years—CONGRATULATIONS!

SYMPATHIES

- ❖ To Kathy and Bill Shook and family on the death of Kathy's mother, Janet Greenawalt-Capitan, on Christmas Day
- ❖ To Kim Farrell, family and friends, on the death of her nephew, Will Vanaxen 12/31
- ❖ To Judy Schrader, family and friends, on the death of her mother, Marjorie Baker, 12/31

CONTINUED PRAYERS

HOMEBOUND, HOSPICE OR LONG TERM CARE

Donna Bloomquist, The Moorings

Epworth Staff Directory

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith,
277-7743 x102 vgordy-stith@epworth.faith

Pastor of Community & Communication:
Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

277-7743 x103 bgordy-stith@epworth.faith

Minister of Music: Doug Yetter

227-7743 x106 dyetter@epworth.faith

Caring Ministry Coordinator:

Mickie McManamon

227-7743 x104 mmcmanamon@epworth.faith

Office Manager: Darlene Ford

227-7743 x105 dford@epworth.faith

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt

227-7743 x101 dhunt@epworth.faith

Administrative Assistant: Barbara Kurtz

227-7743 x100 bkurtz@epworth.faith

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman

227-7743 x107 bplowman@epworth.faith

Youth Coordinator: Joy Gordy-Stith

Facilities Manager : John Hilt

Custodian: Wanda Hudson

ASL Interpreter: Sandy Davis

Nursery: Cathy Crawford

Cemetery Superintendent: Jay Stevenson

Epworth Ministry Organization



***VISION: Explore Faith,
Embrace Community***
***MISSION: Inviting, Belonging,
Connecting, Caring***

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith
Governing Board Chair—Linda Kauffman
Lay Leader—Mike Tyler
Finance Chairs—David Hagelin and David
Streit
Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair—
Jack Palmer
Chair of the Board of Trustees—
Bunny Maher

STRUCTURE:

Four Ministry Teams

Inviting Team

Inclusive Ministries, Food Ministries, Ecu-
menical/Interfaith, Social Justice
Leadership Team: Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith
and Bob Joynson

Belonging Team

Small Groups, Belongings, Sunday School,
All Age Level Groups

Leadership Team: Gwen Osborne, Linda
BenderHilt, Loretta Mahan, Cathie Lewis
and Teri Moore

Connecting Team

Worship, Music, Conferences, Retreats
Leadership Team: Doug Yetter and Murray
Archibald

Caring Team

Good Sam, Missions, Pastoral Care Team,
Care Ministries

Leadership Team: Mickie McManamon,
Dee Speck and Holly Reynolds