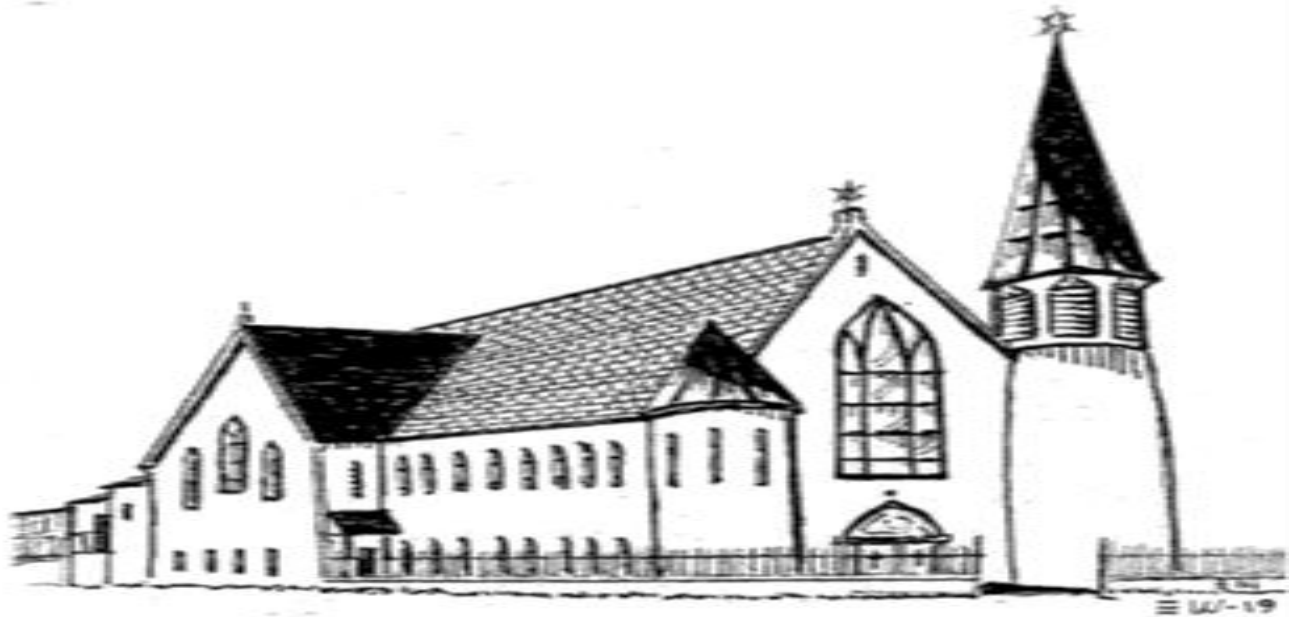


**GEORGE STREET UNITED
CHURCH
ROOTED IN THE ROCK:
TRANSFORMING FOR TOMORROW**



January 9th, 2022

Baptism of Jesus

Worship Leader: Rev. John Maich B.C.S M.Div.

Organist & Senior Choir Director:

Dr. Carolyn Sturge Sparkes, B. Mus., PhD

Men's Choir: Directed by William Green.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Organ Prelude: Musette---L. Boellmann

Land Acknowledgement, Welcome, and Announcements:

Sharing The Peace of Christ:

*Call To Worship:

ONE: Come all you who bear then names of Disciple,
Follower or Christian. Come to the river and behold the
lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

ALL: **We come to see the spectacle of one who comes
after submitting to the one sent before. We come to
witness God in human flesh submit to waters of
repentance. We come to bear testimony to the God
who does what is right and joins us where we are.
Glory and praise to you baptized Redeemer, to your
Father in heaven and to the Holy Spirit you send as
your promised sign and seal.**

*Hymn: VU 220 Praise To The Lord The Almighty

Opening Prayer: (in unison)

ALL: Let us examine our hearts and our minds and let us
do so in the bright light of Jesus' submission to the
call to repentance that John highlights as the way
of God and the approach of God's heavenly
kingdom here on earth. Let us lay aside vain idea
and ambition to take up the way and the will of God.
Amen.

Prayer Of Confession:

ONE: With Jesus as our example let us prepare ourselves for the work of repentance

ALL: **Redeeming Christ, you embrace the necessity of turning lives around. Both the Father and yourself take up the task of repentance showing a willing to change and adapt to new circumstances. Touch our hearts of stone and render them into hearts of flesh. Touch our stiff necks and make them pliable, let them bend so that we may turn more easily. Open our eyes so that we may see ways around obstacles and not despair. Make us holy as you are holy in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

ONE: God has sent Jesus into the world not to condemn nor to destroy but to redeem and to restore. You are new creations in Christ Jesus and free from all condemnation.

ALL: **We cling to the promise that we have received. That a place has been prepared for us in the Kingdom of Heaven. Help us to grow and mature in our faith so that we may serve you fully. Amen.**

***Hymn: VU 375 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness**

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (in unison):

ALL: **Thank you God, for the ways that you have chosen to reveal yourself to us. Thank you for the whole of Creation and her testimony. Thank you for the words of your servants and their witness. Thank you for the gift of Jesus, your word made flesh and**

for his commandments. Touch our hearts and our ears that we may hear you anew.

Hebrew Lesson: Isaiah 43: 1-7
Epistle Lesson: Acts 8: 14-17
Responsive Lesson: Psalm 29 VU pg. 756

Musical Offering: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring----J. S. Bach

Gospel Lesson: Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

Sermon: Holy Spirit and Fire

*Hymn: VU 100 When Jesus Comes To Be Baptized

Prayers of the People:
The LORD's Prayer:

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Minute For Mission:

Invitation to the Offering:

ONE: Mindful of all that God has done for us from the founding of the universe we bring forward the fruits of our labour and our being. We offer our time, talents, and our treasures, for the furthering of God's Holy Kingdom with joyful hearts.

Prayer of Dedication: (in unison)

ALL: Thank you, gentle Saviour, for accepting our gifts. Thank you for using them to serve your children near and far. Thank you for allowing us to be your agents of grace in the world. Amen

***Hymn: VU 506 Take My Life And Let It Be**

***BENEDICTION:**

ONE: As people of God, you form a community of faith within
The United Church of Canada

ALL: **Within this community of faith, we are both blessed
and blessing.**

***COMMISSIONING (in unison):**

ONE: Go now and proclaim the good news of Christ's gospel.

ALL: **We will testify to God's creative caring and to the
Spirit's empowerment and encouragement of our
community. We will use our many and varied gifts
to reach out to our neighbours and embody God's
love for them in the world.**

Organ Postlude: Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr----J. Walthier

(To God on high alone be glory)