



# Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

I am happy to share with you my first sermon for 2021, on the occasion of the Baptism of the Lord. This Sunday, we will be reading Matthew's account of Christ's baptism by His cousin John the Baptist, because Matthew includes a detail the other Gospel accounts do not: that John initially objected to baptizing Jesus, feeling that their roles should be reversed with Jesus baptizing him. But Jesus persuaded John to consent to baptizing Him, and John did so. Jesus did not force or guilt John into baptizing Him, but sought John's willingness. And Jesus in turn seeks our own willingness to follow Him when He comes to us.

Please use following phone numbers and links between 10:15am and 10:30am.  
You can join in one of two ways:

**By computer, smart phone or tablet:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623?pwd=OTFUQWJvU21MMmR6bkY5SitpelR1UT09>

**By Phone:** 1 (312) 626 6799 ID 867 5713 3623, Passcode 205879

(If you need a live link to the Worship link, you can go to the homepage of our website at [www.vccbhm.org](http://www.vccbhm.org) with the passcode 205879 OR click on "Links to Zoom" then the Sunday Worship link.)

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Christ's and yours,  
Pastor Eric

# Valley Christian Church

## First Sunday after Epiphany

January 10, 2021

### PRELUDE

*"Fairest Lord Jesus"*

Margaret Cox  
Pianist

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

People: I came baptizing with water for this reason, that He might be revealed.

Leader: I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove.

People: And it remained on Him.

Leader: The one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit."

People: This is the Son of God. (John 1:29-34, NRSV)

Terry Nunnelly  
Worship Leader

### HYMN OF PRAISE

*"What was Your Vow and Vision"*

*What was your vow and vision, revealed & recognized  
Christ when you came to Jordan to ask to be baptized  
Was there a sudden splendor  
Or prophets, priests, and kings  
A wind that stirred the waters, a blur of mighty wings*

*Was this God's call the crowning of all you had become  
Go show and tell my coming, my own, my chosen one  
Did scripture join with scripture, revealing in surprise  
The triumph of a servant rejected and despised*

*We meet you at the water and ponder why and how  
In hope that we may follow where God is going now  
Anointed by your spirit, reborn and energized  
Through deed and word proclaiming  
In Christ we are baptized*

### INVOCATION

Terry Nunnelly  
Worship Leader

### SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

God of baptisms and of being born again, we praise you for the path of new birth you lead each of us on. You created us while guiding us to become new creations in your name. As part of that path, we take these holy and sacred moments to pray to you, for ourselves and for each other, knowing that you hear our prayers. We pray to you on behalf of the people we have named aloud and the people and communities who are in the silence of our souls, as we lift up to you the ones whom we have named aloud at this time...

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:13-17

Terry Nunnelly  
Worship Leader

### MESSAGE

"Then He Consented"

Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson

### HYMN

*"Wade in the Water"*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children  
Wade in the water, God's a-going to trouble the water*

*See that host all dressed white  
God's a-going to trouble the water  
The leader looks like the Israelite  
God's a-going to trouble the water*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children  
Wade in the water, God's a-going to trouble the water*

*If you don't believe I've been redeemed  
God's a-going to trouble the water  
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream  
God's a-going to trouble the water*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children  
Wade in the water, God's a-going to trouble the water*

### SHARING OUR OFFERING WITH GOD

Share your financial offering with the church by mail or bring it by the church office. Thank you for your love gifts.

Terry Nunnelly  
Worship Leader

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Terry Nunnelly  
Worship Leader

**CALL TO  
COMMUNION**

As we remember Christ's baptism, we are also called each Sunday to remember and partake in the second sacrament He instructed for us—the Lord's Supper.

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

**COMMUNION  
HYMN**

*"Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed"*

*Wonder of wonders, here revealed  
God's covenant with us is sealed  
And long before we know or pray  
God's love enfolds us every day*

*Here in this sacrament we see  
God's grace unbound for all, for me  
May we respond with joyful praise  
In loving service all our days*

*Our vows of faith we now renew  
Stretch wide our sights to global view  
And claim with Christians far and near  
A larger family held dear*

**COMMUNION  
PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

*Eve Harman  
Elder*

**WORDS OF  
INSTITUTION**

Hear the words of Jesus when He said, "Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you. Take and drink, this is the cup of the covenant poured out for you."

*As the Words of Institution are spoken, you are invited to partake in the bread and juice, or whatever is available to you.*

**BENEDICTION**

May the God who called you forth to be baptized send you forth today as well, a sinner called and redeemed to call and redeem fellow sinners. And may the blessing of the Lord be with you on this day and on all days. Amen.

*Rev. Dr. Eric Atcheson*

**POSTLUDE**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

*Margaret Cox  
Pianist*

*You are warmly invited to remain in our Zoom worship space for some online fellowship time following the postlude.*

