



The people of
Hinton Avenue United Methodist Church
Seek Christ, Serve Christ, Share Christ
in Belmont and Beyond

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January 9, 2022
Baptism of the Lord

Greeting and Announcements

Call to Worship

Bob Braden

Sing praises to the Lord. Sing of God's glory and strength.

God calls us over the waters, and strengthens us for the journey.

Sing praises to Christ. Sing of Christ's healing and love.

The waters of our baptism cleanse us, renewing our spirits and nursing our wounds.

Sing praises to the Spirit. Sing of the Spirit's comfort and hope.

The flames of the Spirit are like a refiner's fire, purifying the soul to the glory of God.

Hymn (66)

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven
Henry F. Lyte, 1834. Public Domain. CCLI License #11159075

Opening Prayer

Holy God of glory and majesty, you have called us by name. We pray in this moment for the courage and the strength to answer your call. As we open our ears to hear the story of your Son's baptism, open our hearts also, that we may experience again the renewing power of rebirth in the Holy Spirit. Inspire us in this time of worship, that we may claim our own identity as your beloved children. We pray in the name of our brother, Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 8:14-17

Second Reading

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon

The Covenant

Let us pray.

God of mercy, hear us as we confess our sins.

For the sin that has made us slow to learn from Christ,
reluctant to follow him,
and afraid to bear the cross:

Lord, have mercy,
Lord, forgive.

For the sin that has caused the poverty of our worship,
the formality and selfishness of our prayers,
our neglect of fellowship and the means of grace,
and our hesitating witness for Christ:

Lord, have mercy,
Lord, forgive.

For the sin that has led us to misuse your gifts,
evade our responsibilities,
and fail to be good stewards of your creation:

Lord, have mercy,
Lord, forgive.

For the sin that has made us unwilling to overcome evil with good,
tolerant of injustice,
quick to condemn,
and selfish in sharing your love with others:

Lord, have mercy,
Lord, forgive.

Silence

**Have mercy on me, O God,
in your constant love;
in the fullness of your mercy
blot out my offences.
Wash away all my guilt,
and cleanse me from my sin.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,**

**and renew a right spirit within me.
Give me the joy of your help again
and strengthen me with a willing spirit.**

The presiding minister says:

If we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just,
and will forgive our sins,
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Therefore to all who truly repent
this is his gracious word:
'Your sins are forgiven'.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

□ Therefore let us make this covenant of God our own.
Let us give ourselves to him,
trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.

Eternal God,
in your faithful and enduring love
you call us to share in your gracious covenant in Jesus Christ.
In obedience we hear and accept your commands;
in love we seek to do your perfect will;
with joy we offer ourselves anew to you.
We are no longer our own but yours.

**I am no longer my own but yours.
Your will, not mine, be done in all things,
 wherever you may place me,
 in all that I do
 and in all that I may endure;
 when there is work for me
 and when there is none;
 when I am troubled
 and when I am at peace.
Your will be done**

when I am valued
and when I am disregarded;
when I find fulfilment
and when it is lacking;
when I have all things,
and when I have nothing.
I willingly offer
all I have and am
to serve you,
as and where you choose.

Glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
May it be so for ever.
Let this covenant now made on earth
be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.

Silence, all seated

As we have entered this covenant not for ourselves alone, but as God's servants and witnesses, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Loving God, hear us as we pray for your holy catholic Church:
make us all one, that the world may believe.

Inspire and lead all who govern and hold authority in the
nations of the world:
establish justice and peace among all people.

Have compassion on all who suffer from any sickness,
grief or trouble:
deliver them from their distress.

We praise you for all your saints who have entered your
eternal glory:
bring us all to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray in silence for our own needs and for those of others . . .

Silence

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever. Amen

Offertory

"Down In the River to Pray"
Chancel Choir: Elizabeth Scribner, Minister of Music

traditional Appalachian

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God,
we come today with joy for your baptism;
we come with praise for your glory;
we come with gratitude for your love.
As we offer these gifts to you,
send your Spirit upon us,
that our hands and our hearts
may do your work in the world.
As we offer our lives to you,
bless us with your strength,
that we may join with you
to work for the blessing of peace
throughout the world. Amen.

Hymn (2051)

Blessed Assurance
Fanny J. Crosby, 1873. Public Domain. CCLI License # 11159075

Dismissal with Blessing

People of hope and peace, go into the world.
Bring God's healing love to all whom you meet.
Help with ministries, which promote justice and compassion.
In Jesus' Name, go in peace. AMEN.

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Announcements

Welcome to our guests! We hope that in worship, everyone will be able to experience the warmth of God's love, the power of Jesus' resurrection, and the gift of fellowship in the Holy Spirit. We invite you to visit us as often as you are able and to become part of our church family. We have many opportunities to worship, learn, grow, and serve, and encourage you to find the ones that are right for you. For more information on any of our ministries, or to discuss becoming a member of our church, please speak to our pastor or lay leader.

Everyone is invited to be part of the Chancel Choir. Music readers as well as those who "sing by ear" are welcomed. Rehearsals are Wednesdays in the sanctuary from 6:30-8:00 PM.

Small Group Ministry - Would you like to be connected more closely to Christ and to others? Sharing with others helps grow our faith and deepen our relationships. Small Groups are a purposeful way of connecting to God and each other on a regular basis. If you would be interested in participating in a small group in the new year, sign up now at www.hintonavenueumc.org.

Making Sense of the Bible - Why do Christians disagree so much about what is right and wrong? Who decided which books made it into scripture and why? What's the best way to read the Bible and really understand what it says? The world's best selling, most-read, and most-loved book can also be one of the most confusing. In this sermon series, we will deepen our knowledge about scripture, answer many frequently asked questions, gain confidence in reading and interpreting the Bible, and grow in our faith. Invite someone you know and love to share this journey with us so that they, too, can make better sense of God's word for us today!

Jan 16 – Making Sense of the Bible

Jan 23 – the Old Testament in 15 Minutes

Jan 30 – The New Testament in 15 Minutes

Feb 6 – Is the Bible God's Word?

Feb 13 – Violence, Suffering, and Other Troubling Issues

Feb 20 – How to Study the Bible

We will discuss the sermons and Adam Hamilton's book Making Sense of the Bible in a small group study starting Friday, January 21st . You can buy the book in several formats at Cokesbury.com or Amazon.com. We will start on Jan 21, 10:45 am -12 pm, and meet for 6 weeks. Hopefully, COVID will have subsided some and we will be able to meet in person as well as online, but either way the Zoom link will be <https://bit.ly/3f2Uz0m>

Meeting ID: 833 8494 3551

Passcode: 088741

We prayerfully ask that you sustain your generosity so that Hinton Avenue can continue to be a blessing to others.

You may want to consider making your offerings to the church through a **periodic automatic draft from your bank account**, as many members have already done. This relieves you of writing and mailing a check (banks will mail it free of charge for you) and assures the church of your ongoing support, even on those times when you cannot be with us in Sunday worship. You may also give via **PayPal** by using the "donate" buttons at <http://www.hintonavenueumc.org> or on our [FaceBook](#) page.

Praying for One Another -January 9, 2022

At Home

Donald Allen
Mary Lambert
Tom Goodman
Sonny Mawyer
Edith Coleman
Lieu Lewis
Kathy Miller
John Holmes
Joanne Burruss

Frances Walton
Charles & Ruth Bankard
Neil McLaughlin
Debbie Stollings
Vicki Shiflett
Sandi Wilkinson
Brenda Myers
Virginia Dorrier
Frances Marshall

Judy Durham

At Rosewood Village

Charlotte Blincoe

At The Laurels

W.E. Pittman

If you would like a pastoral visit or home communion with Rev. Lewis. Please schedule at 804-852-8476 or at <https://calendly.com/rdlewis75>

It is important that we remain gathered in spirit

Join us in person, by computer, mobile device, or telephone.

You can join us for Worship on Sundays at 11 am

To join the Zoom meeting, visit <https://bit.ly/2JAKOGW>

or dial 1(646)876-9923 and enter: Meeting ID: 142 714 820# Password: 436770

Or view on Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/hintonaveumc/live