Prayer Concerns

First Responders Carole B.'s niece's family

Victims of natural disasters

Those suffering from mental

Illness, addiction & homelessness

Those affected by gun violence

Ray S.

Curtis, lifted by Reba Y. Judy, lifted by Brenda F. Bunny, Liz L.'s Cousin Marianne, lifted by Janis J.

Doug, friend of Joel & Deb Jane P.
C. Keith A.
Bill & Marilyn R. Judy L.

Tammy M.'s Dad's recovery Selene, lifted by Carole A.
Alice W.'s Dad's recovery David and Steve, lifted by

Vicki and her family, daughter of Mary Ellen M.

Rae and Walt S.

Harry W., son of Harry W. Dan G., lifted by Barb & Ron C.

Matt, lifted by Janis J.

Joan H.

Jeff S., nephew of Jan & Bill C. Cindy, Reba Y.'s sister-in-law Jewel Y., lifted by the Wolters Terry, Kathy, and Deb, lifted by Paul & Claudia T.

Barbara B.

David N., JoAnne's husband Joy and Rocky, lifted by Paul &

Claudia T. Ron W.

Wayne K., lifted by Liz L.

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

1/7 James Bridges 1/11 Madlyn Bard

1/9 Kim Delfing 1/13 Leighton Maculewicz

1/10 Morgan Chapman

Today's Worship Leaders

Preacher: Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm Organist: Javier Gonzalez

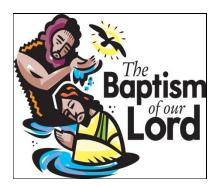
Choir Director: Gabriela Martinez

Liturgist: Greg Lavelle

Greeters: Barb Andrews, Greg Lavelle

Ushers: Barb and Ron Clough

Audio Video Elements: John and Michelle Wolter, Phil Wolter



North Olmsted United Methodist Church

Feeding the Community – Body, Mind, and Spirit

4600 Dover Center Road, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070 440-779-6634 + <u>www.noumc.org</u> Rev. Hoyte L. Wilhelm, Pastor

First Sunday after the Epiphany/Baptism of the Lord

January 7, 2024 10:30 am

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

L: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Celebration of Ministries and Missions

Prelude Blessed Jesus, We Are Here J.S. Bach

*Call to Worship (based on Genesis 1 and Mark 1) Greg Lavelle

L: In the beginning, God...

P: Swept over waters, spoke light into existence, created day and night and called it good.

L: As the days and nights of creation filled with life, God...

P: Made humanity out of the dirt to love and tend creation, to be loved and tended by God.

L: As we lost our way, God...

P: Sent Jesus, Love Incarnate, to show us the way back.

L: On the day Jesus came to the banks of the Jordan River to be baptized, God...

P: Declared, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

L: Let us, then, follow Jesus into the waters, remembering our baptism in which God...

P: Claims us as beloved children, the family of God.

*Unison Prayer

Holy God, Eternal Spirit, we thank you for baptizing us into one body in Jesus the Christ. Wash over us with your Spirit, that, like Jesus, we may serve you in serving humanity. Baptize us with the fire of your truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Old Testament Reading Psalm 29

***Hymn** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty UMH 139

Prayers of the People

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer of Confession

We are incredibly stubborn, O Lord. We have entered the season in which Your Light has been given to the world, your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of the saints of light. We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord.

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, forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Invitation for the Offering

Offertory Christe qui lux William Blitheman

(O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day)

*Doxology UMH 94

*Prayer for the Offering

Gospel Reading Mark 1:4-11

Sermon "The Best Message for 2024" Rev. Hoyte Wilhelm

Hymn Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters UMH 605

Sacrament of Holy Communion and Reaffirmation of Baptism

*Hymn O Spirit of the Living God UMH 539

*Responsive Benediction

L: As you go into the week ahead, may every water you touch be a reminder that you are named and claimed by God—

P: who binds you to this community of faith and all Christians of all times and places in love.

All: Amen.

Postlude I Know Whom I Have Believed David Lasky (You are invited to be seated for the Postlude before exiting the Sanctuary.)

*Please stand if you are able.