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Baptism of the Lord



An Order for the Service of Worship

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9:30 AM

JANUARY 11, 2026

PRELUDE

Ms. Becky Oliver, Organist

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tim Drum

GATHERING HYMN *The Church in the Wildwood (1,3)* Cokesbury #121

HYMN *Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine* UM Hymnal #606

OPENING PRAYER

O God, Searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own. As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us. Let your spirit impress your truth on our inmost being, and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(David Tripp, England, 20th Cent.)

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

O God, our Covenant Friend,
you have been gracious to us through all the years of our lives.
We thank you for your loving care, which has filled our days and brought us to this time and place.
We praise your holy name, O God.

You have given us life and reason,
You have given us life and reason,
and set us in a world filled with your glory.
You have comforted us with family and friends,
and ministered to us through the hands of our sisters and brothers. **R**

You have filled our hearts with a hunger after you,
and have given us your peace.
You have redeemed us, and called us to a high calling in Christ Jesus.
You have given us a place in the fellowship of your Spirit
and the witness of your Church. **R**

You have been our light in darkness
and a rock of strength in adversity and temptation.
You have been the very Spirit of joy in our joys
and the all-sufficient reward in all our labors. **R**

You remembered us when we forgot you.
You followed us even when we tried to flee from you.
You met us with forgiveness when we returned to you.
For all your patience and overflowing grace. **R**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

MORNING PRAYERS:

Rev. Drum

Prayer Concerns/Praises from the Congregation
Silent Prayer
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

PSALTER

Psalm 50

UM Hymnal **#783**

HYMN

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

UM Hymnal **#369**

SCRIPTURE READING ***Matthew 3:13-17 (NT p3)*** Rev. Drum, Reader

SERMON

"Fulfilling All Righteousness" Rev. Tim Drum

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God.
Through baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into
the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator.
He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last for ever.
On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ,
the Source and Perfecter of our faith.
On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but only
for Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

From time to time we renew our covenant with God,
especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the
Lord's table.

Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met,
to renew the covenant that binds us to God.

Let us make this covenant of God our own.

Wesley's Covenant Service

INVITATION

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves.

It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

Lord, make me what you will.

I put myself fully into your hands:

put me to doing, put me to suffering,

let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,

let me be full, let me be empty,

let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and with a willing heart

give it all to your pleasure and disposal.

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

Lord, make me what you will.

I put myself fully into your hands:

put me to doing, put me to suffering,

let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,

let me be full, let me be empty,

let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and with a willing heart

give it all to your pleasure and disposal.

Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants.

He is the source of all salvation to those who obey.

Christ will have no servants except by consent;

Christ will not accept anything except full consent to all that he requires.

Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing.

Confirm this by a holy covenant.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once,
to be spent alone before the Lord; in seeking earnestly God's special
assistance and gracious acceptance of you;
in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant;
in searching your hearts whether you have already freely given your life
to Christ. Consider what your sins are.
Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are,
and whether you, after having carefully considered them,
are willing to choose them all.
Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant,
rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength,
so you can keep your promise.
Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful.
You have given to the Lord your hearts,
you have opened your mouths to the Lord,
and you have dedicated yourself to God.
With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord.
Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven,
open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

COVENANT PRAYER (*the people kneel or bow*)

**O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
see me as I fall down before you.
Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will,
for you have promised mercy to me
if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

**I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all,
covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life.
Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world.
In your power
I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you.**

**For my own righteousness is riddled with sin,
unable to stand before you.**

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again
if you would let him.

**Before all heaven and earth,
I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God.
I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion,
and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant,
to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

God has given the Lord Jesus Christ
as the only way and means of coming to God.

**Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ
as the only new and living Way,
and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him.
O blessed Jesus, I come to you,
hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked,
unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants.
I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head.
I renounce my own worthiness,
and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness.
I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide.
I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.**

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**I do here covenant with you, O Christ,
to take my lot with you as it may fall.
Through your grace I promise
that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your
burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good.
I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and
actions, promising that I will strive
to order my whole life according to your direction,
and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today
without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it,**

**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
you have now become my Covenant Friend.
And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant
servant. So be it.
And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven.
Amen.**

(Signature)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Drum

POSTLUDE Ms. Oliver



Jacksons Grove extends a warm welcome to all newcomers.

A cordial welcome is extended to all who visit with us today! It is a delight to be able to worship with you! Come back soon and often. If we can help you in any way, please let us know.

Come join us for Bible Study each Sunday morning at 8:30am. It is a time for fellowship, reflection, and spiritual growth, and all are welcome. Refreshments provided.

December 2025 Stewardship Report (unaudited)

	Annual Budget	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Received	Monthly Budget	Received in December
Offerings Identified	\$116,000.00	\$116,000.00	\$113,829.00	\$11,041.67	\$ 9,612.00
Offering Plate Cash	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 4,789.09	\$ 185.00	\$ 310.00
Special/Designated	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 10,717.50	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 975.00
Transfer In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,300.00	\$ -	
Miscellaneous	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -		
TOTALS:	\$130,500.00	\$130,500.00	\$149,635.59	\$12,226.67	\$10,897.00
Amt Over (Under):		\$ -	\$ 19,135.59		\$(1,329.67)

Welcome to Jacksons Grove United Methodist Church of Landrum! Our ministry here dates from the 1830s, when the family of Captain Thomas Jackson, a Revolutionary War veteran, established the congregation and built a meetinghouse on the site where our current sanctuary now stands. Our sanctuary and grounds evoke a long history of worship and service. Virtually everything in the sanctuary was built by hand, by local artisans who carefully selected materials that have stood the test of time. Those who worship at Jacksons Grove are privileged to have such a unique place of worship and are committed to keeping this historic church building as authentic as possible. The fieldstone markers in the adjacent cemetery suggest that it was in use long before the earliest documented burial in 1859. It is our hope that this meetinghouse will remain a simple place of quiet dignity and beauty where people may worship God in spirit and truth for generations to come. Please pick up a brochure and visit our website for a more complete history of our delightful church building. We are delighted that your path has led you here and would like nothing more than for you to share in the journey as part of our community.

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