

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

"O For a Closer Walk"

*O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!*

*Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn
And drove Thee from my breast.*

*So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.*



Meadowbrook Congregational Church
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www.mbccc.org | Pastor Joel K. Boyd, Senior Minister

January 12, 2025
Baptism of our Lord, First Sunday after Epiphany

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 12, 2025

Baptism of our Lord, First Sunday after Epiphany

PRELUDE "Wonderful Words of Life" *arr. by Albin Whitworth* Dave Howland

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Joel K. Boyd

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Minister: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Minister: Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

CHORAL INTROIT

Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends. Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course portends.

**Stand in body or spirit*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 29; Luke 3:21-22) *(read responsively)* Lee Gross

Leader: The voice of God resounds upon the water.

Congregation: **The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.**

Leader: The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

Congregation: **And all who worship shout out, "Glory!"**

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord majesty and strength.

Congregation: **Let us worship God in holy splendor.**

***GATHERING HYMN** "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" #4

***INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(in unison)* Lee Gross

Lord God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan the heavens opened up, the Spirit descended, and Your voice affirmed Your love in Jesus for the healing of humankind and all creation. May Your Spirit, moving like a stream of water flowing from its source, work in us this day to realize Your vision of a world made new in Christ. Be with us now, Lord, as we pray as Jesus taught us:

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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Open the Eyes of My Heart" #151

SUNDAY SCHOOL MOMENT

(Children are released to Sunday School.)

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 8:14-17 | Page #126 NT Lee Gross

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM "O For a Closer Walk" *by Charles Villiers Stanford* Sanctuary Choir
(See back page for lyrics)

SILENT PRAYER & PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Joel K. Boyd

CHORAL AMEN

OFFERTORY "Adagio Cantabile" *by L. v. Beethoven* Dave Howland

***DOXOLOGY** *(sing in unison)* #563

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavn'ly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

SERMON SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:15-22 | Page #60 NT Rev. Joel K. Boyd

Leader: This is the Gospel message of our Savior.

Congregation: **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

Let thy word abide in us, O Lord.

SERMON "Spirit and Fire" Rev. Joel K. Boyd

***SENDING HYMN** "Wade in the Water" #512

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Joel K. Boyd

POSTLUDE "Wade in the Water" Traditional Spiritual Dave Howland

MUSICIANS: Dave Howland, Sanctuary Choir and Danny Reeves
TECHNICIAN: Scott Hokett | **GREETER:** Barbara Vanderhoff | **LITURGIST:** Lee Gross

Please join us in Fellowship Hall following this morning's worship service for an informal farewell gathering for the Boyd family. There will be goodies.