



# Wilbraham United Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ  
and the United Methodist Church*

**500 Main Street  
Wilbraham MA 01095**

Phone: (413)596-2511

*Wilbraham United Church*  
"I am the vine, you are the branches."

[www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](http://www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)  
[facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch](https://facebook.com/WilbrahamUnitedChurch)

**January 9, 2022**

**BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**10:00 A.M.**

## **GATHERING MUSIC AND WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: From the waters of Creation, the earth sprang forth.

**People: From the waters of a womb, God's blessed Son was given to us.**

Leader: From the waters of a river, people were baptized as God's Children.

**People: Praise God, who gathers us together in worship, community and love.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN # 64 (UMH)**

*Holy, Holy, Holy, v. 1 & 4*

### **PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**Bring us to the waters, God of our Baptism. Hold us as your children and claim us as your own. Guide us in our worship of you this day that we may feel the freedom that baptism gives us as well as the responsibility it places upon us to live as disciples of the Risen Christ. God of Creation, bring us your wisdom this day to hear your word proclaimed and leave this place to proclaim it ourselves, praying in the name Jesus Christ:**

**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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*SONG OF PRAISE #238**

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Welcome

Leader: They were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant, and said to them:

**People: “Let the children come to me, do not stop them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”**

Address

Questions to the Parents and the Ones to be Baptized

Question to the Congregation

Leader: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

**All: We promise our love, support, and care.**

Blessing the Water and the Act of Baptism

Prayer for the Baptized

**All: Give to this child strength for life’s journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

### CONGREGATIONAL BAPTISM REAFFIRMATION

page 50 (UMH)

### GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’

One: Our God is still speaking.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

## REFLECTION ON BAPTISM

Pastor Chip

## SPECIAL MUSIC

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Chip

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

**Sung Response #2200 (FWS)**

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.*

*O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come, and listen to me.*

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation to Give

**\*Doxology #254 (UMH)**

*O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*PARTING HYMN #2238 (FWS)**

*In the Midst of New Dimensions, v. 1, 4 & 5*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #251 (UMH)**

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;*

*Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born*

## FOLLOWING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

## MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

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*\* All who are able to stand, may do so.*

*The altar flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God by Deb Trimble, Rick and Carolyn Averill in friendship and recognition of the years of service given by Rev. Paul Nesbit to the people of Wilbraham United Church.*

***Welcome Visitors!** Is this your first visit to United Church? Please sign our Guest Pad located in the Narthex. Immediately after the service, we invite you to continue down the central hallway and join us for Fellowship and Refreshment in our Fellowship Hall.*

## MINISTERING TO YOU TODAY

**Senior Pastor:** The Rev. Wallace A Hurd IV

**Interim Music Director:** Roberta Morkin

**Technical and Artistic Director:** Deb Trimble

**Ushers:** John and Taylor Colkos

**Greeters:** Chuck Morkin



**Please Pray For:** Alice Belsky, Ross Karlson, Helene Pickett, Tim and family, Theresa Munn, Herb Vieira, Kathy and family, Daniel, Catherine, Lynne, Terry, Ray, Theresa, Ann, Jane Godfrey, Shey McAbee, Sharon McAbee, Patti Keiser, Sue Pereira, Bev Sawyer, Kathie Birkhaeuser. The victims of violence and their families in our country. Our troops, our country and our world.



### **“News for the Pews” for the Week of January 9, 2022**

**Altar flowers** are a unique and beautiful way to celebrate a milestone or memorialize a loved one. If you would like to donate the flowers for any Sunday, please see Edna Colcord, email the office, or sign up on the Altar Flowers calendar in the narthex.

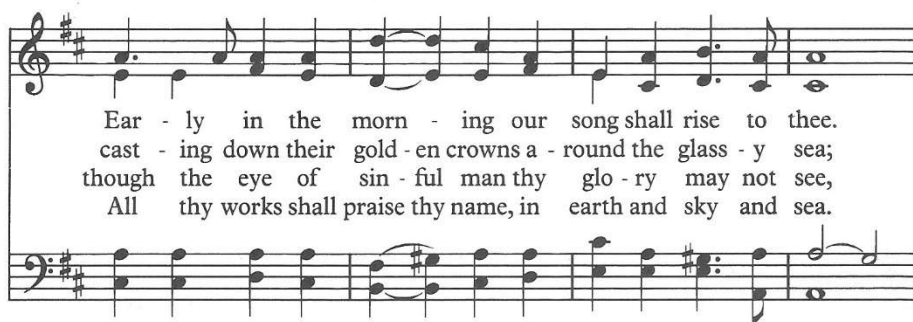
**Family Night at Shaker Lanes!** Join us at Shaker Lanes in East Longmeadow on Saturday, January 15, from 5-7 for an all-ages evening of bowling, pizza and fellowship. Please RSVP to Pastor Chip or Pam Byers ([byers721@charter.net](mailto:byers721@charter.net)).

**Bible Study Happy Hour** will begin a new series on January 25, at 7:15 p.m. on Zoom, reading and discussing Tom Fuerst’s *Underdogs and Outsiders*, exploring the stories of the five women named in Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus, showing how they all played a pivotal role in God’s purposes. Contact Pastor Chip if interested in joining.

# 64 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty



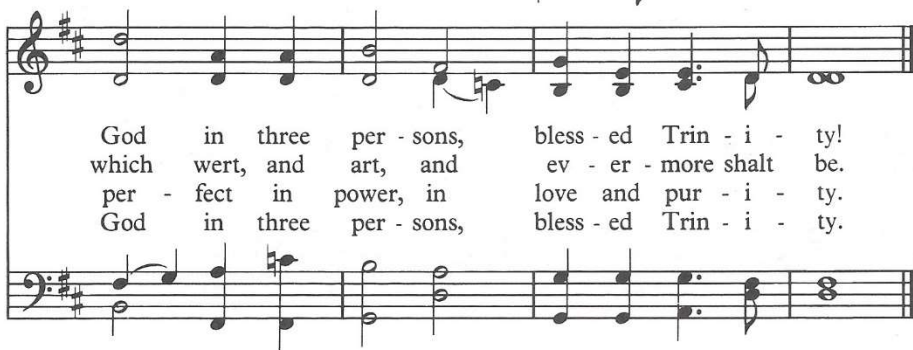
1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,  
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

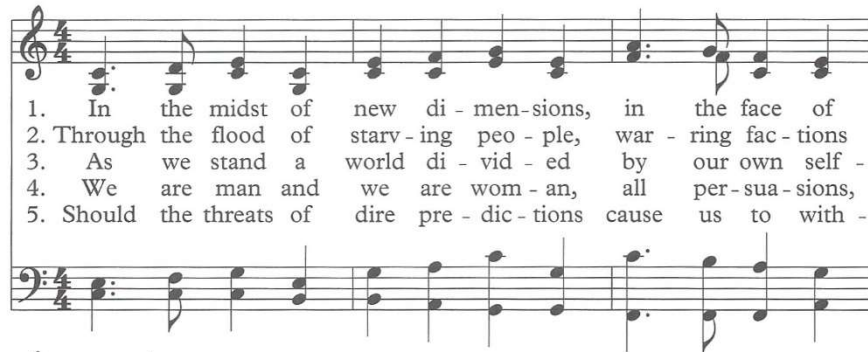


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y,

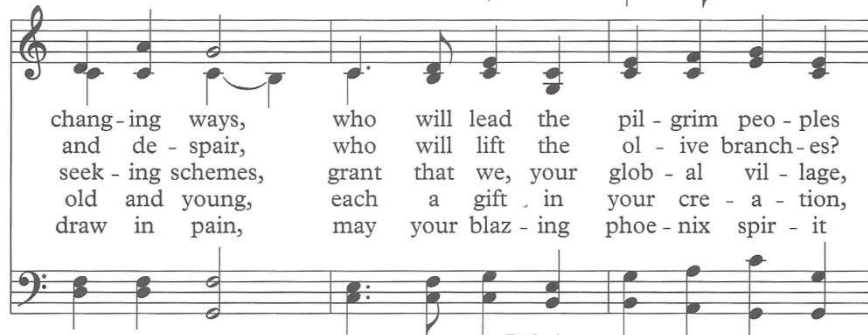


God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

## 2238 In the Midst of New Dimensions



1. In the midst of new di - men-sions, in the face of  
 2. Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions  
 3. As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self -  
 4. We are man and we are wom - an, all per-sua-sions,  
 5. Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -



chang-ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples  
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch-es?  
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,  
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,  
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it



*Refrain*  
 wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?  
 Who will light the flame of care?  
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain-bow, fier - y pil-lar,  
 each a love song to be sung.  
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.



lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, we your peo-ple, ours the jour-ney

now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

This musical score is written for a vocal melody and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with a final half note. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and single notes. The lyrics are 'now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.' The score ends with a double bar line.



# **WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE!**

**Saturday, January 15, 2022**

**9:30-12:00**

**Wilbraham United Church**

**Back Parking Lot**

**We are looking for new or gently used:**

**Coats, Hats, Scarves**

**Gloves & Mittens**

**Blankets**

**FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

**If you are placing an online order for items, you can ship them right to the church!**

**Wilbraham United Church**

**C/O Coat Drive**

**500 Main Street**

**Wilbraham, MA 01095**

**Collected items will be distributed to the homeless in our area by Big Blue Ministry (part of Church Without Walls)**

**Monetary donations accepted and will be used to purchase items list above.**

**Please contact Patty Clements 413-626-2145 with any questions**



## **This Week at Wilbraham United Church**

### **Monday, January 10**

**10 a.m.** Piecemakers – Bliss Room

**6:30 p.m.** Al Anon – Youth Room

**7 p.m.** WUP Board Meeting – FH

### **Tuesday, January 11**

**7:15 p.m.** Bible Study – Zoom

### **Wednesday, January 12**

**10 a.m.-2 p.m.** Chip's Office Hours

**6 p.m.** – WUP – Fellowship Hall

**6:30 p.m.** Al Anon – Youth Room

**6:30 p.m.** Cub Scouts – CS Rooms

**7 p.m.** – Deacons Meeting - Zoom

### **Thursday, January 13**

**10 a.m.-2 p.m.** Chip's Office Hours

**7 p.m.** Bell Choir Rehearsal

### **Saturday, January 15**

**9:30 a.m.-Noon** Winter Coat Drive  
(Back Parking Lot)

**5 p.m.-7 p.m.** Family Bowling Night  
(Shaker Lanes)

### **Sunday, January 16**

**10:00 a.m.** Sunday Worship  
(Sanctuary & Facebook Live)

**Please bring a mask**

**12:00 p.m.** Church Without Walls  
(Court Square)

## **Wilbraham United Church Staff**

**Aimee Walat**, Administrative Assistant

([admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) x100

**Pastor Chip**, Pastor

([pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) x103

**Bobbie Morkin**, Interim Music Director

([musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:musicdirector@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) x106

**Eric True**, Custodian

([wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:wucbuilding@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) x107

**Betsy Johnsen**, Bookkeeper

([bookkeeper@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org](mailto:bookkeeper@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org)) x100



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**The people of The United Methodist Church®**

## READ IT

This week's Bible story is  
**Jesus' Baptism**  
from Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



### I am God's child and God loves me!

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Jesus
- John
- Jordan River
- Baptize
- Spirit

John baptized the people with a baptism of repentance. The people who came to John to be baptized recommitted themselves to avoiding evil and promised to follow God's path.

## Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 242-245

Spark Bible page 1132

## Family Prayer

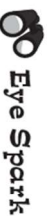
Thank you, God, for the gift of baptism. Thank you for calling us your beloved children. Help us to live fully in that role. In Jesus' name we pray...AMEN.

## TALK ABOUT IT



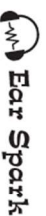
### Family Conversations

- 1 Do you remember when you were baptized?
- 2 Who baptized you?
- 3 Where were you baptized?
- 4 Make a simple paper banner with all of your family's baptism dates on it. Hang it where you'll see it and remember to celebrate each person's baptism day.



### Eye Spark

When you see a bird, remember that God's Spirit looked like a dove coming out of the sky during Jesus' baptism.



### Ear Spark

When you hear water splashing, remember your baptism!

## LIVE IT

### For families to do together

Do something with water to celebrate the gift of baptism. Have a water fight, go swimming, or sit in a hot tub. Enjoy water! It played a part in declaring you a beloved child of God!

### For younger kids

Leave secret notes for your family and friends (under pillows, in lunch boxes, in shoes) that say "You are a beloved child of God!"

### For older kids

Think of ideas for Baptism Day gifts. Think creatively – what would be a great (maybe unusual?) gift to give someone on their Baptism Day, the yearly anniversary of their baptism?

