

**Order of Worship for January 10, 2021**

**First Sunday after Epiphany**

**The Baptism of Our Lord**

**The First Congregational Church of Hanover**

**An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ**

**The Rev. Dr. John A. Terry, Interim Pastor**

**Mr. Chad Weirick, Minister of Music**

**Words of Welcome**



**Prelude**

**Call to Worship** (Based on Psalm 29)

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory of God's name; worship the LORD in holy splendor. The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!" The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as ruler forever. May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

**Invocation**

Eternal God, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

**Scripture Lesson: Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup> John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

### **Hymn: *Come, Thou Almighty King***

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise.  
Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.  
Thou who almighty art, now rule in ev'ry heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three eternal praises be, hence evermore.  
His sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

### **Sermon: *Water and the Spirit***

#### **Hymn: *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above***

O worship the King all-glorious above, O gratefully sing his power and his love:  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise

O tell of his might and sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.  
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

#### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **The Offering**

#### **The Doxology**

#### **Benediction**

#### **Postlude**

