

Welcome to Samuel UCC
No matter where you are on life's journey,
YOU
are welcome here!

- We are **REQUIRING** everyone wear a facemask. (*Children 3 years and younger would be exempt from the mask requirement.*)
- You may move about and greet one another during “The Passing of the Peace.” As always, be respectful of other’s comfort levels regarding touching.
- The offering plate will be at each entrance to the sanctuary.
- Congregational singing of hymns is permitted for those who have been fully vaccinated.
- At this time, we will not be having a formal indoor fellowship time after church, but you are invited to talk with each other after worship in the sanctuary or outside.
- Children are invited to stay in service for Children’s Time and then join Sunday School.
- Children aged 3 and under are welcome to join our staffed and vaccinated Nursery in the fellowship hall.

**Scan this code with your smart phone’s
camera app to be taken to the
Members Only Website for Sign ups,
news and more!**



Sunday January 9, 2021

10am Samuel United Church of Christ

The Baptism of Jesus

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and hearing assistance devices are available.

**indicates all who are comfortably able, please rise in body or spirit*

Welcome and Gathering Music

Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

Call to Worship

(Adapted from UCC Worship Ways)

One: Siblings gathered near and far, today we recall: Jesus came to the waters of baptism.

All: In baptism, our Creator claims us and frees us from the power of hatred and death.

One: In baptism, the Spirit of God brings us together for ministry in Christ's name. We become signs of God's divine love.

Living symbols of grace and mercy, love and forgiveness.

All: Therefore, on this day, the whole church, the Body of Christ, remembers and celebrates what God has done and what God is doing.

Opening Hymn:

"O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word"

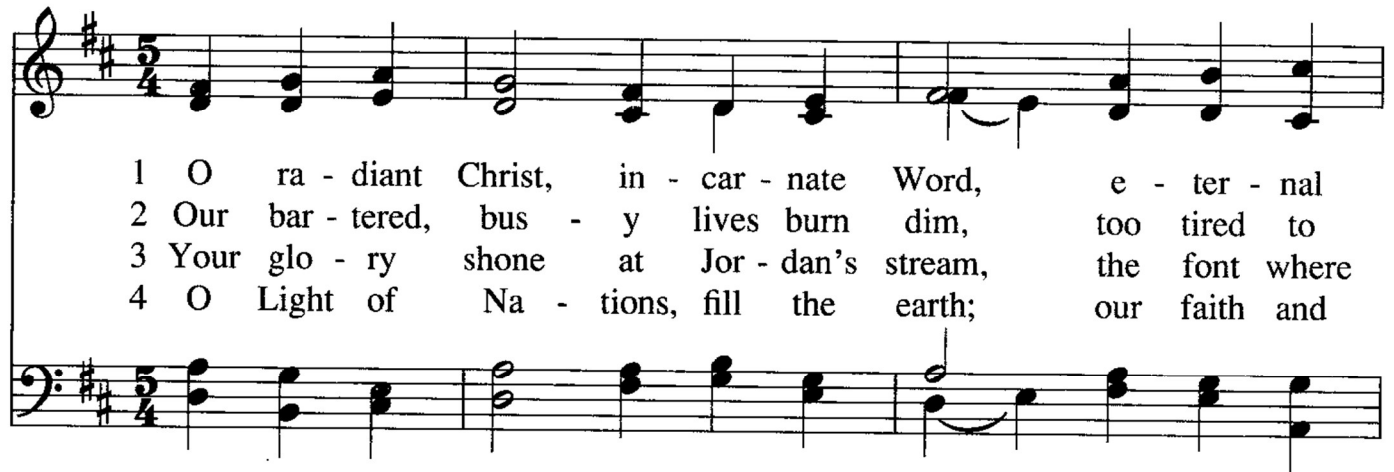
#168 NCH (black)

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

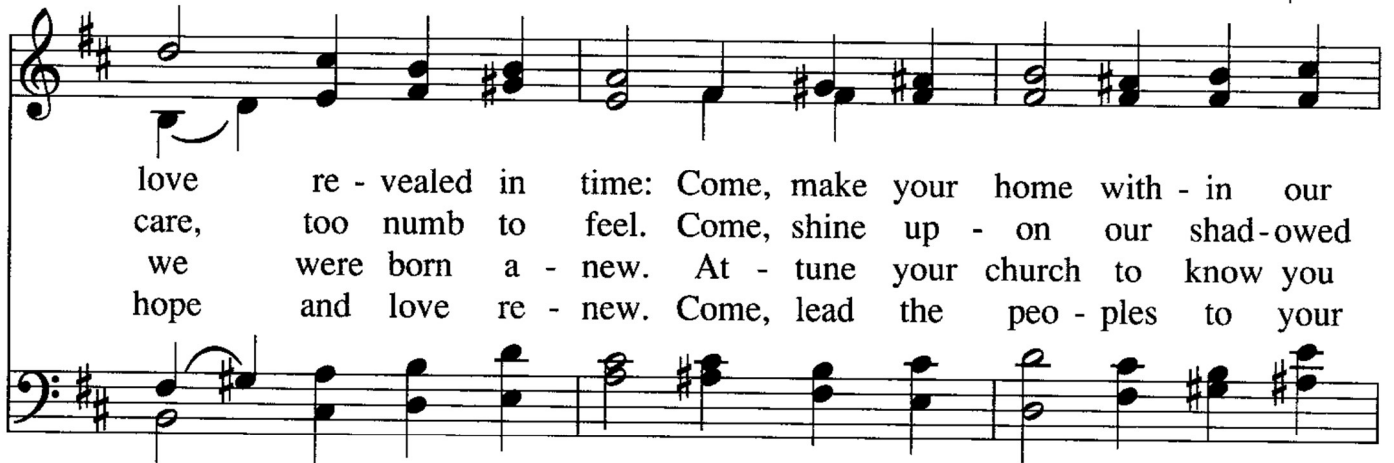
168

Ruth Duck, 1989

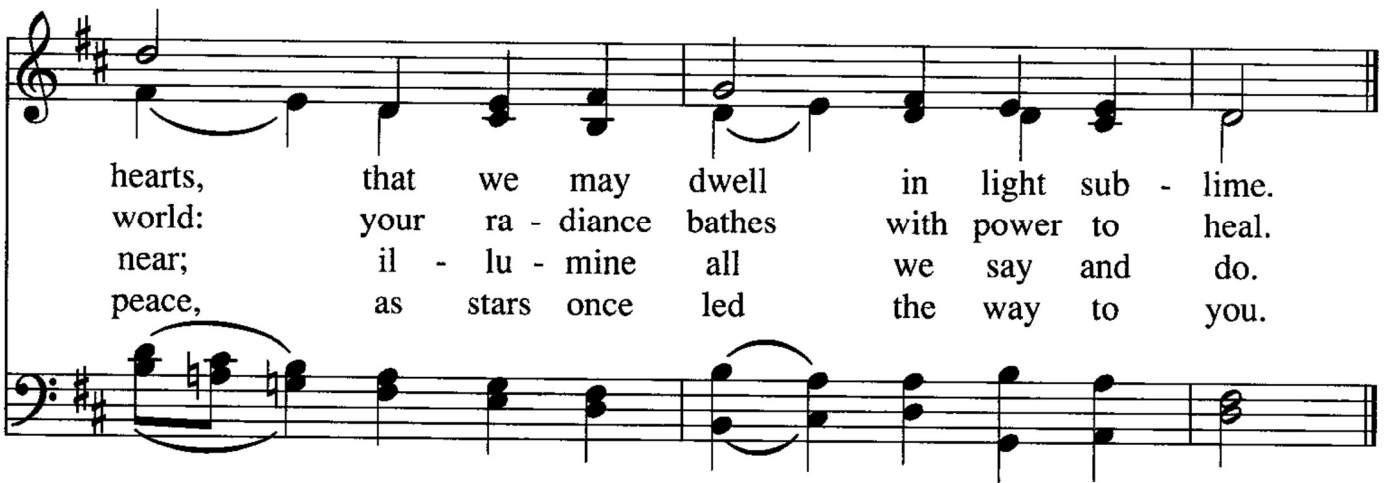
Isa. 60:19-20; Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11



1 O ra - diant Christ, in - car - nate Word, e - ter - nal
2 Our bar - tered, bus - y lives burn dim, too tired to
3 Your glo - ry shone at Jor - dan's stream, the font where
4 O Light of Na - tions, fill the earth; our faith and



love re - vealed in time: Come, make your home with - in our
care, too numb to feel. Come, shine up - on our shad - owed
we were born a - new. At - tune your church to know you
hope and love re - new. Come, lead the peo - ples to your



hearts, that we may dwell in light sub - lime.
world: your ra - diance bathes with power to heal.
near; il - lu - mine all we say and do.
peace, as stars once led the way to you.

The Passing of the Peace

If you are worshipping with us on Zoom, we invite you to wave your hands to those around you. You may also want to unmute yourself and greet one another with the “Peace of Christ be with you.” For those who are in person, we invite you to greet one another, but be attentive to those who may not want to shake hands. If someone waves that is a cue for a wave back.

Response: *“Shine, Jesus, Shine”*

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father’s glory

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy

Send forth Your word, Lord and let there be light.

A Story for the Ages – Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,^[a] ¹⁶ 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^[b] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ 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.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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;^[a] with you I am well pleased.”^[b]

Response *“Thy Word is a Lamp” (Refrain)* #601 UMH (purple)
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

A Story for the Ages – *Children’s Time with Melissa*

Hymn: *“O Holy Dove of God Descending”* #285 NCH (black)

O Holy Dove of God Descending

Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1976

Unison

C Am F G C Am F G

1 O ho-ly Dove of God de - scend-ing, you are the love that knows no end - ing,
2 O ho-ly Wind of God now blow-ing, you are the seed that God is sow - ing,
3 O ho-ly Rain of God now fall - ing, you make the Word of God en-thrall-ing,
4 O ho-ly Flame of God now burn - ing, you are the power of Christ re-turn - ing,

F C Dm G C F G7sus4 G C

All of our shat - tered dreams you're mend-ing: Spir-it, now live in me.
You are the life that starts us grow-ing: Spir-it, now live in me.
You are the in - ner voice now call - ing: Spir-it, now live in me.
You are the an - swer to our yearn-ing: Spir-it, now live in me.

Message – *Rev. Dr. Guangyu Lou*

A Moment for Mission – *A. Jean Brugger Foundation Student Sponsorship*

Prayers of the People – *Pastor Jeff Groene*

Prayers of the People

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 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.

***Closing Hymn:** *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*
 #77 NCH (black)

The Challenge and Blessing – *Rev. Dr. Guangyu Lou*

***The Postlude**

Liturgist:

Altar Flowers are placed by John Price

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

77

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Luke 2:29; Rom. 1:16

Attrib. to John Fawcett, 1773; alt.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2 We give thanks and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
3 So that when your love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the

joy and peace; Let us each your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion
world a - way, Fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: Oh, re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound: Ev - er faith - ful,
glad your sum - mons to o - bey: May we ev - er,

oh, re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.
may we ev - er live with you in end - less day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Reports are due Jan 15, 2022!

If you served on a committee, please put together a few sentences about 2021 and send to it Anna Muhm.

Food Collection Extended to this Week

Lots of folks left their donations at home, so we are extending for this week, Jan 9!

Conversations on Race and Justice Moved to Sunday, Jan 16

Our every other week conversation on Race and Justice has been moved from this week to next - Jan 16 at 7pm.

Sponsoring Juan Luis through the A. Jean Brugger Foundation

Today we will be receiving a special offering to support the non-profit organization of A. Jean Brugger in San Juan Del Sur, Nicaragua which supports community services and education opportunities for high school and college students. The last few years we have sponsored, Juan Luis, who is studying to be a teacher of deaf students. We have a goal of \$1,790 that would pay his tuition, texts and materials, transportation, and meals for the year. Please consider helping him this year. Mark your envelope or memo on your check "Brugger Foundation."

Intergenerational Mission Trip June 12-17, 2022

In conjunction with First Congregational UCC, we are participating in an Intergenerational Mission Trip to Hinton Center in North Carolina. The final date to confirm the number of participants is **Feb 1, 2022** Email Melissa at cyfoureach@samuelucc.org to RSVP.

A Loss in our Church Family: Rev. Lev Reynolds

Rev. Levering Reynolds entered life eternal Sunday, Jan 2, 2022. he served Samuel UCC as the interim minister from 2000 to September 2001 when Pastor Jeff joined us. A Memorial Service is scheduled for May 28, 2022 details to follow.

Confirmation news: Service Project Sunday, Jan 23 & Classes

Sunday, Jan 16 10am-2pm Class at 1st Congregational UCC, Clayton

Sunday, January 23 1-3pm Service Project Centennial Christian

Pantry Saturday, Feb 12 10am-2pm Class at TBA