

The Congregational Church of West Medford

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

The Baptism of Jesus

January 12, 2014

10:00 o'clock am



WELCOME

The Congregational Church of West Medford, United Church of Christ, is a community that strives to live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ and to share in the costs and joys of discipleship. We unconditionally welcome and affirm people of every age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, race, culture, ability, and economic circumstance, and invite everyone into full participation in our church life and ministry.

If you're visiting for the first time, feel uncertain about church, find yourself here infrequently, or attend weekly, there's a place for you here. There are many ways to be involved and if you'd like to know more about our many activities, please speak to a greeter or the pastor.

We ask that you wear a name tag to help us know each other. Blank name tags are available by the door for anyone in need.

Please be sure to sign the Pew Register which you will find on the center aisle.

As an act of prayer, you are encouraged to light a candle on the table at the front of the sanctuary—for yourself, for a loved one, for peace, for the world.

GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude Aria —Pachelbel

Welcome

Call to Worship Rich Carle

One: We are called to this place to find a new way:

a way of grace, hope, faith, life.

All: God calls and we come.

One: Come, and let go of that which is worn out:

worn out habits, worn out dogmas, worn out resentments, worn out burdens.

All: God calls and we come.

One: This time is blessed and made sacred by Spirit who

heals us, reconnects us, redirects us, empowers us.

All: God blesses and we praise.

One: Come, and receive blessing, freedom, forgiveness, love.

All: God blesses and we praise.

*Opening Song "Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult" # 171

Opening Prayer

^{*} Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Sharing Ourselves with God

Prayer of Confession

*The Good News of God's Grace and Presence (Unison)

*Passing of the Peace

One: May the peace of Christ be with you all. All: And also with you.

*Sung Response "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

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Refrain Only (3 Times)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Time with Young Christians

Children may go to Sunday School at this time

Hymn "Many Are the Lightbeams"

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Church Life and Mission

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

One: God in your mercy All: Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer (You are welcome to pray in the language most familiar to you)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

From the Bible Isaiah 42:1—9 Rich Carle

Matthew 3:13—17

Sermon TURNING POINTS Rev. Wendy Miller Olapade

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Offering

Invitation to Joyful Stewardship

Offertory Barcarolle —Offenbach

*Procession of Gifts

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, comforter; One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen

* Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song "Take Me To the Water

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*Commission and Blessing

Postlude Trio —Dandrieu

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Everyone is encouraged to join in a time of community building immediately after worship in Barnes Chapel—exit the Sanctuary through the door to the left of the pulpit.

### WORSHIP AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WEST MEDFORD

Nursery Care is provided during the worship 'hour". Sunday School is offered today for school aged children..

Today, January 12 Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:00 am
Crossroads/Strategic Planning Team (DR) 11:30 am
Faith Formation/Confirmation (LR) 4:00 pm
The Liturgist today is Rich Carle

Deacon of the Month for January Brenda Briggs

Leadership for Fellowship Hour and Ushers for January is the Outreach Committee

Thanks to Susan Darcy Fuller for this week's coffee hour.

We celebrate the gift and perpetual beauty of the flowers on the altar.

### Second Sunday after the Epiphany Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014, 10:00 am

**Listen, God is Calling:** We hear testimony everywhere. Whether TV commentators or social network updates, we are increasingly bombarded with the testimony of others. We struggle to know what sources of information are reliable. On this second Sunday after the Epiphany, we will be reading testimony that describes God's activity and will reflect on what testimony we have to offer about God.