The Baptism of Jesus and John Lewis and the Music of Freedom

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

## Call to Worship, based on Psalm 29: A psalm of David.

One: Ascribe to the Lord all glory and strength.

## **People:** Worship the Lord in the splendor of God's holiness.

- O: The majestic voice of the Lord is over the waters;
- **P:** The God of glory thunders,
- O: The voice of the Lord splinters the mighty cedars of Lebanon;
- **P:** The God of glory thunders!
- O: The voice of the Lord strikes with flashes of lightning;
- P: God makes Lebanon leap like a calf.
- O: The voice of the Lord shakes the desert; divides flames of fire.
- **P:** The voice of the Lord twists the oaks and strips the forests bare.
- O: You! In God's temple: Cry "Glory!"

ALL: The Lord is enthroned as King forever. The Lord gives strength to the people; the Lord blesses God's people with peace.

## Prayer of Invocation

Dear God, Grant us your peace this day.

Help us to be effective instruments of your peace as we live out our call.

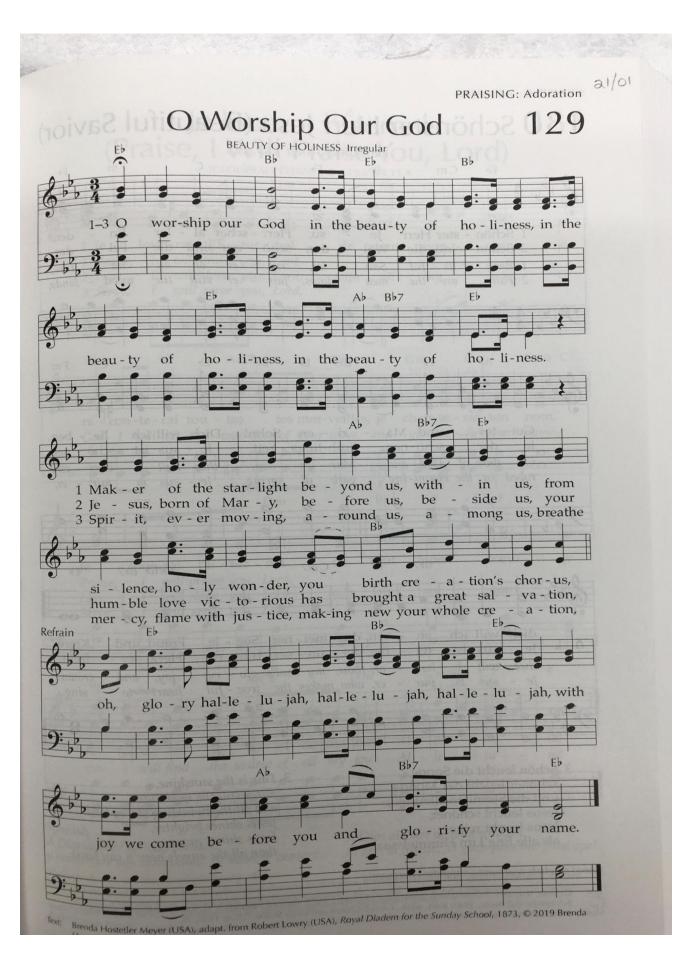
Help us to love our neighbor and trust in your transforming power.

Grant us wisdom in conversations. Let us appreciate each and every one of your creations.

Watch over us and protect us in this time of uncertainty.

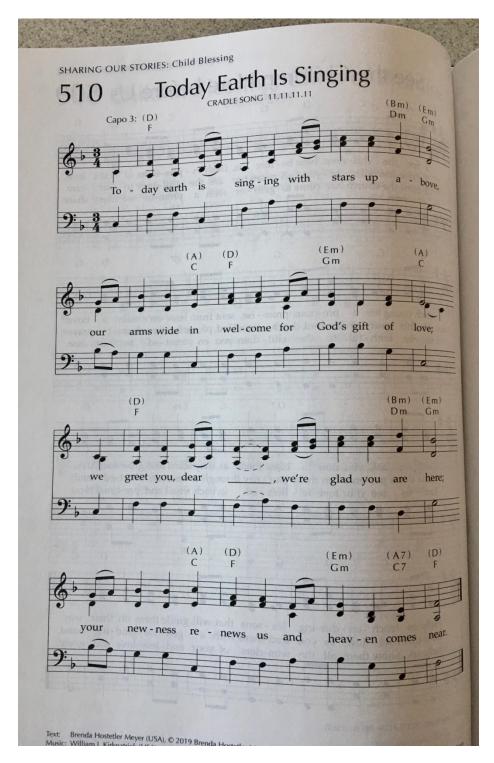
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Hymn: Purple/VT #129 "O Worship Our God"

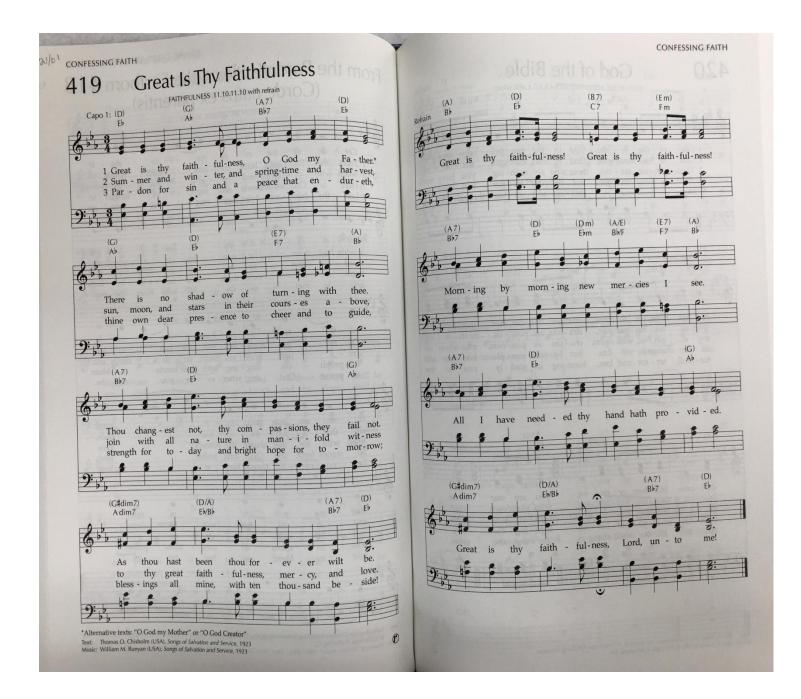


# Children's Epiphany Hymn: VT #510 "Today Earth is Singing"

(tune Away in a Manger - we will sing throughout Epiphany to learn) Children's Time: Adeline Cox



Offering Prayer/Offertory Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church



Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

In the Beginning God created the heavens and the earth 2 But the earth became chaos and emptiness, and darkness came over the face of the Deep – yet the Spirt of God was brooding over the surface of the waters. 3 Then god said, "Light: Be!" and light was. 4 God saw that light was good, and God separated light from darkness. 5 God called the light "Day" and the darkness "Night". Evening came, and morning followed – the first day.

### Gospel Reading Mark 1:4-11

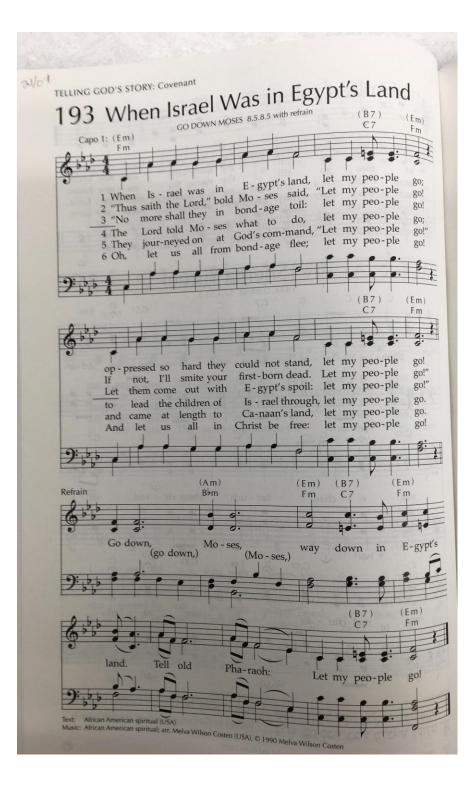
4 And so John the Baptizer appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jersusalem went out to John and were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. 6 John was clothed in camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist, and he ate nothing but grasshoppers and wild honey. 7 In the course of his preaching, John said, "One more poweful than I is to come after me. I am not fit to stoop and untie his sandal straps. 8 I have baptized you in water, but the One to come will baptize you in the Holy Spirit." 9 It was then that Jesus saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 Then a voice came from the heavens: You are my Beloved, my Own. On you my favor rests."

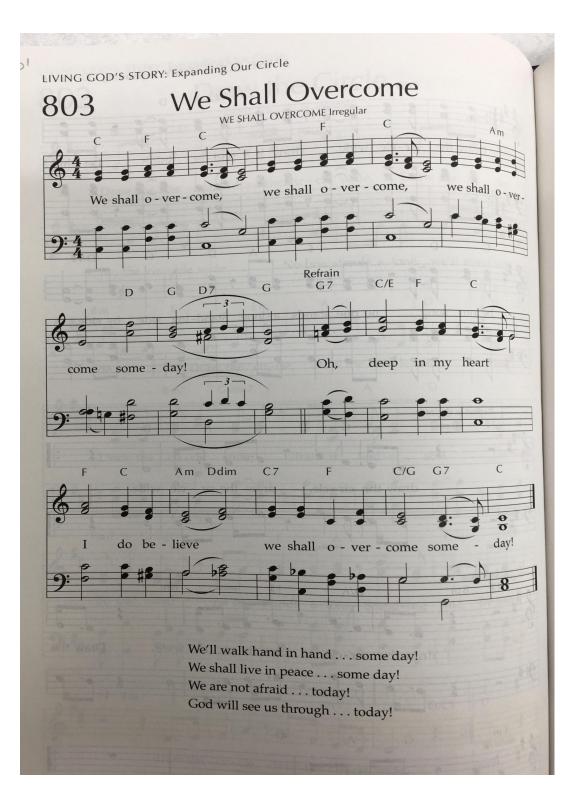
## **Response to the Scripture:**

Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God among us, For the Word of God within us,

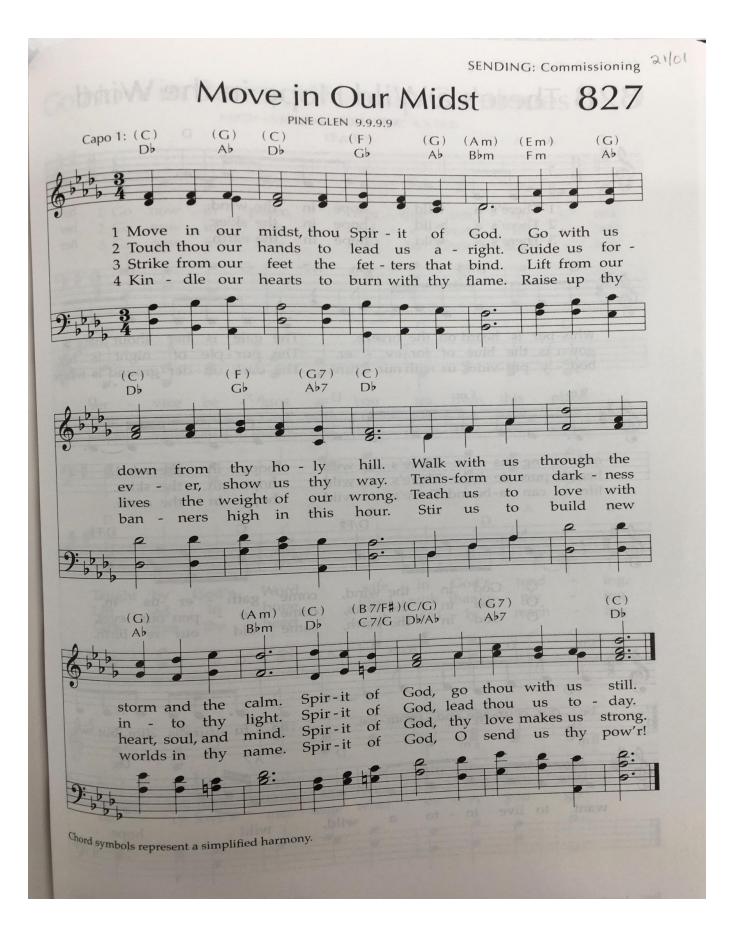
**People:** Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "The Baptism of Jesus, John Lewis and the Music of Freedom" Patty Friesen Hymn: Purple/VT #193 "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land" (verses 1 & 6) Hymn: Purple/VT #803 "We Shall Overcome" (verse1,2,3)





Hymn: Purple/VT # 827 "Move in Our Midst"



Benediction: Go forth in peace and be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may the God who fills the hungry with good things fill us all with Christlike love and with a consuming hunger for justice in our land and in our world. (1059VT)

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#### **Remember in Prayer:**

- Teachers and students in new year

- Helen Peters, Warman Special Care Home says "Happy New Year everyone!" She can get our services on her cell now and loves photos and texts 306-491-1484.

- Good news from Friendship Inn: The \$7500 automatic potato peeler project started by Mount Royal and joined in by Nutana Park and Osler Mennonite Churches with grants from Mennonite Disaster Service, Concord Corp. and a random comment to an optometrist netted \$36,000 that Friendship Inn is using to re-do their plumbing and buy a new coffee maker and blender. Thanks be to God!

-We are called to join our brothers and sisters in MC USA in prayer following the events that unfolded in their country over the last week. Glen Guyton, the executive director of Mennonite Church USA, has written a response to the attack on their Capitol yesterday. Here is a link to Glen's response to the attack on the Capitol: <u>https://www.mennoniteusa.org/glens-blog/attack-on-capitol/</u>