Willow Springs Worship January 24, 2021

Call to Worship

- L: In the very beginning, God separated the darkness and the light. God called the Light "Day" and the Darkness, God called "Night".
- P: We were once people who dwelled in darkness, but God has given us the true Light, Our Lord Jesus Christ.
- L: God has blessed us and adopted us as God's own beloved children, through the Living Spirit.
- P: The Spirit baptizes us to bring healing and reconciliation; it is the power of nourishment and cleansing.
- L: This day is the day of the remembrance Jesus identity.
- P: As we hear the words of his baptism and temptation, let us be reminded of our own adoption by God and celebrate the joyous connection to and journey with Our Creator God.

Opening Prayer

Song

Prayer of Confession:

We know Your Light has been given to the world, and your blessings have been poured out on the world. Yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Wash away our jealousy, greed, and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Help us to first know we are your child. Again let us receive the blessings offered in creation, in the birth and baptism and ministry of Jesus.

We ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Words of Assurance: The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Our God of love and truth descends on us today. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord. **We are children of God.**

Song

Children's time

Scripture: Matthew 3:13 - 4:3

Sermon: Solid Identity to Live From

Song

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

Offering our lives/song

Announcements - **Announcements** - Plan for discussion after worship in our hopes of being an anti-racist people. We will watch 'We the People' - the three most misunderstood words in US history | Mark Charles https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOktqY5wY4A&t=68s And converse.

Next Sunday, Lyle Miller from Everence will be sharing with us in worship and in a discussion following worship.

Benediction - Journey joyfully from a solid identity. God is with you in your foundation of love. Bring peace and hope to all you meet. And may God's eternal love shine through you always. Amen.