

PRELUDE

*Aurelia (The Church's One
Foundation)*

by Samuel Sebastian Wesley --
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WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 29: 3-4, 9-11, adapted

*The voice of the Lord is upon the
waters; the God of glory thunders; the
Lord is upon the mighty waters.*

***The voice of the Lord is a powerful
voice, a voice of splendor.***

*The voice of the Lord makes the oak
trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the Lord all are
crying, "Glory!"*

***The Lord sits enthroned above the
flood; the Lord sits enthroned as
sovereign for evermore. The Lord
shall give strength to the people; the
Lord shall give this people the blessing
of peace.***

OPENING SONG

Baptized in Water
FWS 2248

A TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22

*As the people were filled with
expectation and all were questioning in
their hearts concerning John, whether*

*he might be the Messiah, 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 strap of his
sandals. He will baptize you with 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; with you
I am well pleased."*

THE MESSAGE

By Water and the Spirit

CELEBRATING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and
praise.***

*It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
Always and everywhere to give thanks
to you . . . And so, with your people on
earth, and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their
unending hymn:*

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your
glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes
In the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!***

*Holy are you, and blessed is your Son,
Jesus Christ As we proclaim the
mystery of faith:*

***Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.***

*Pour out your Holy Spirit ...All honor
and glory is yours, almighty God, now
and forever.*

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

RECEIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

CLOSING SONG

Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me
UMH 336

Verses 1, 2, and 5

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

*Grosser Gott, wir loben dich
(Holy God, We Praise Thy Name)*
Setting by Bob Moore

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Baptized in Water
Words: Michael Saward;
Music: Trad. Gaelic melody

Of All the Spirit's Gifts to Me
Verses 1, 2, and 5
Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1979;
Music: *Seelenfreud* (J. Meyer, 1692)

All Songs - One License A-719583

WELCOME TO ALL

Who hope for a better world
& all who have lost hope:

Believers and seekers
Conventional Christians & questioning
skeptics

Women, men, youth and children

Of all sexual orientations & gender
identities

Of all races and cultures,

Of all income levels

Of all social classes

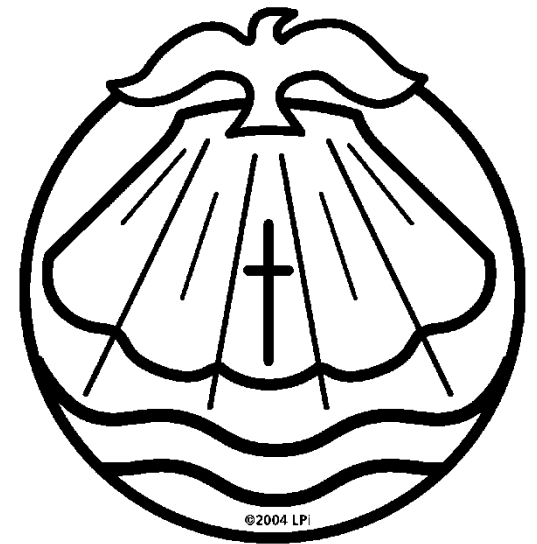
Of all physical & mental abilities.

COME AS YOU ARE . . .

YOU ARE WELCOME!

Sparta United Methodist Church

71 Sparta Avenue
Sparta, New Jersey
www.spartaumc.org



*Service of Worship with
Holy Communion*

Sunday, January 12, 2025

8:45 AM