



The meaning of Baptism is many-faceted. Baptism proclaims God's grace and love for us. In Baptism, God claims us and marks us as God's own. Baptism signifies our engrafting into Christ, and so affirms our new identity as members of the body of Christ. Through the waters of Baptism, we participate in Christ's death and resurrection by which we die to all that separates us from God and are raised to new life in Christ. In Baptism we are assured of cleansing from sin, of inclusion in God's grace and covenant, and of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The significance of Baptism is not limited to the one being baptized. Those present who have been baptized are reminded of



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Valley Community Presbyterian Church
8060 SW Brentwood, Portland, Oregon 97225

March 15, 2009 at 10:00 AM

Third Sunday in LENT

❖ *Please stand if you choose*
Bold Text is spoken by everyone

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Thee* J.S. Bach

ACOLYTES Amber Lee and Liz Boyle

WELCOME AND COMMON CONCERNS

OUR PURPOSE IN ACTION Donna Russell

INTROIT *Peace Medley* arr. Lamb
New Spirit Ringers

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist, David Marquis

One: The voice of God spoke over the waters,
All: **And the voice of God said, "Let there be...and there was."**
One: The voice of God said, "Let there be a congregation of
believers here at Valley...and there was."
All: **And it was good.**
Women: **And the voice of God said, "You are my daughter, the
beloved..."**
Men: **"You are my son, the beloved..."**
All: **"With you I am well pleased."**

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE *Without Seeing You* No. 2206

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The voice of God is powerful; the God of glory thunders; the voice of God flashes forth flames of fire: Before this God, we humbly bow and confess that we have not lived in the freedom of our baptism. We have not loved God as God loves us; we have not loved our neighbors as we are bidden. As you ordered the chaos of creation, so order the chaos of our lives. Speak to us tender words of love and forgiveness. Amen.

SILENT, PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

❖ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

No. 579

❖ THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

A TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 19

Cantor: Adam Steele

REFRAIN

♩ = 126 God is our ref - uge; God is our strength.



DEDICATION OF THE BAPTISMAL FONT and REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS FOR THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION (See insert)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM

*Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs/And With His Stripes/
All We Like Sheep, from Messiah*

Handel

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Luke 14:25-33

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Holy Water or Fairy Dust?

Pastor Minshew

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

David Marquis, Deacon

THE LORD'S PRAYER (p.16)

