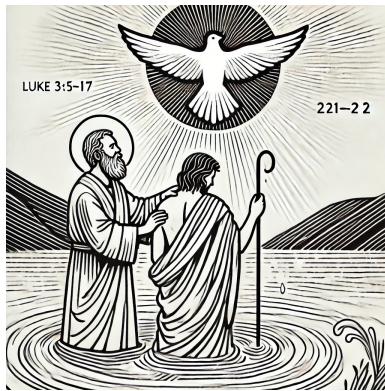


THE
BEACH CHURCH
Pensacola Beach · Florida

A place where heaven and earth meet,
where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.



Baptism of the Lord

www.thebeachchurch.com

Pastor Jim Coyl

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Baptism of the Lord.

January 12, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship (Inspired by Isaiah 43:1-7)

Leader: Thus says the Lord, who created you and formed you: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

People: We come to worship the God who knows us by name and calls us His own.

Leader: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the fire, you shall not be burned.

People: We trust in God's presence and find refuge in His protection.

Leader: You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you. Do not fear, for I am with you.

People: We rejoice in the God who gathers us together in His love.

All: Let us worship the Lord!

Hymn

Scripture Reading

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Baptism of Jesus

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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." Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 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."

Sermon

"Beloved"

Rev. Jim Coyl

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer:

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn

Benediction

BECOMING HOLY:

A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

"Holiness is not a luxury, but a necessity. It is not for the few, but for all." - Peter Kreeft

Steps Toward Holiness

1. Prioritize Prayer

- **What to Do:** Dedicate time daily to prayer. Use the Lord's Prayer or speak from the heart.
- **Why It Matters:** Prayer connects us to God and aligns our hearts with His will.
- *"Without prayer, there is no holiness."*

2. Live the Faith

- **What to Do:** Attend Worship regularly and participate in congregational life.
- **Why It Matters:** Worship realigns us with God's grace, the fuel for the journey toward holiness.
- *"The Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life."*

3. Embrace Scripture

- **What to Do:** Read a small portion of the Bible daily, meditating on its meaning.
- **Why It Matters:** God's Word is a roadmap for living a holy life.
- *"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."* - St. Jerome

4. Practice Charity

- **What to Do:** Perform acts of kindness and serve those in need.
- **Why It Matters:** Holiness grows through love, and love is made real in service.
- *"What you did for the least of these, you did for me."* - Matthew 25:40

5. Cultivate Virtue

- **What to Do:** Focus on one virtue at a time (e.g., patience, humility).
- **Why It Matters:** Virtues are habits that shape us into Christ-like people.
- *"Holiness means becoming the person God made you to be."*

Inspiration from Peter Kreeft

Kreeft reminds us that holiness is attainable for everyone:

1. **God calls each of us to be saints.** Holiness isn't reserved for a select few but is the purpose of our lives.
2. **It starts with small, daily steps.** Begin where you are, with what you have.
3. **Grace is the key.** We don't achieve holiness on our own but cooperate with God's grace.

Dr. Peter Kreeft, a renowned philosopher, author, and professor, specializes in Christian philosophy, apologetics, and ethics. He's authored over 80 books, inspiring intellectual faith engagement.