

**Hadwen Park Congregational Church,**  
**United Church of Christ**  
[www.hadwenparkchurch.org](http://www.hadwenparkchurch.org)  
November 21, 2021 10am  
**\*stand as able in body or spirit**

Children are to go downstairs at 10am for Sunday School

PRELUDE *Brett Maguire, [brettwmaguire@gmail.com](mailto:brettwmaguire@gmail.com)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS and WELCOME

***Thank you for shutting off all electronic devices***

THANKSGIVING OPENING PRAYER *From "Before the Amen" by Tirabasi  
written by Rev. Ann B. Day, a friend of this church.*

**Wondrous Spirit, we raise to you our joyful noise; words of thanksgiving,  
songs of praise! Rhythm-setter of tides and seasons, from the depths of  
the waters to the heights of the land, creation declares your greatness. You  
dapple our days with sun and our nights with starlight. Unceasingly flow  
your peace and love. May your goodness transform us, deepening our  
gratitude for the beauty around us, the kindness among us, the bread  
broken for us. Lead us, we pray, in blessing the lives of others, so that  
all your world may have reason to rejoice. AMEN**

\*GATHERING HYMN *"Come, You Thankful People Come" #422*

BAPTISM *(See insert)*  
*Logan Bailey Nickerson, Born: July 17, 2021*  
*Parents: Jon and Laura Nickerson*  
*God Parents: Kristen and Erik Boulac*

*Great-grandmother, Marie Jean Nowell, made this wedding gown from Laura Nowell Nickerson's  
wedding dress. The gown that Logan is wearing was also worn by her big sister, Layla, on the  
day she was baptized here, November 3, 2019. Great-grandpa, Chic, was the deacon that day.*

CHORAL RESPONSE *"I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"*

STEWARDSHIP CAMEO *Anne Nickerson, [acnicks@gmail.com](mailto:acnicks@gmail.com)*  
*Greatgrandmother to Logan and Layla and many more*

ANTHEM *Hadwen Park Choir*

HEBREW LESSON *Psalm 93, from the Message Bible by Peterson*

God is King, robed and ruling,  
God is robed and surging with strength.

And yes, the world is firm, immovable,  
Your throne ever firm—you're Eternal!  
Sea storms are up, God,  
Sea storms wild and roaring,  
Sea storms with thunderous breakers.  
Stronger than wild sea storms,  
Mightier than sea-storm breakers,  
Mighty God rules from High Heaven.  
What you say goes—it always has.

"Beauty" and "Holy" mark your palace rule, God, to the very end of time.  
Leader: The Hebrew Scripture for the People of Christ. **People: AMEN!**

PRAYER of CONFESSION

**God, we confess that sometimes we live between caffeine and tranquilizers,  
alternatively trying to find energy for our lives or to relax enough to feel our  
own feelings. Forgive us the mood swings of the spirit, our misuse of body  
and soul, and the reaching outside of ourselves for the blessing you plant  
deep within. Forgive us, O God. Detoxify our lives.**

Silence is kept

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

- 1) **Glory, glory, hallelujah! I have laid my burdens down (X2)**
- 2) **I am shouting hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down (X2)**
- 3) **I am dancing my own dance now! since I laid my burdens down X2)**
- 4) **Glory, glory Hallelujah!, I have laid my burdens down (X2)**

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
and leads me beside still waters and restores my soul.  
God restores my soul and leads me in right paths.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil: for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

SERMON

*Rooted in Gratitude*

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication



## INVITATION to BAPTISM

**Pastor:** Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**People:** **There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But, when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

**People:** **“Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child, shall not enter it.”**

Pastor: And, Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. Baptism is the sacrament through which we are united to Jesus Christ and given part in Christ's ministry of reconciliation. Baptism is the visible sign of an invisible event; the reconciliation of people to God. In baptism, God works in us the power of forgiveness, the renewal of the Spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be God's people always.

**People:** **This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

### *BAPTISM COVENANT*

**“Today we welcome Logan Bailey Nickerson into our church family. We will lead you to be a kind, loving and humble child of God. We will teach you to help others and forgive easily. As you grow, you will learn that life has its challenges, and your family will always be there to support you, just as Christ is always there for you. We will work together to uncover the strengths with which you were born. We will teach you to be accepting of everyone with an open mind and an open heart as we are all children of God. Today we promise to reinforce the unconditional love that your parents and large extended family have for you. You are at your life's beginning and we pray that you choose to lead a life with a vision of Jesus' path.**

**May God forever bless your sweet soul. Amen**

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there as you grow old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
To see your life unfold.

## **I WAS THERE to HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY**

*It is our custom at HPC to stand when a line  
in this song speaks to your spiritual journey.*

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there as you grow old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,  
With a faith to suit you well  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
To find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word,  
I was there to cheer you on  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
To whom you now belong

If you find someone to share your time,  
And you join your hearts as one  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
From dusk to rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life  
Not too old no longer young  
I'll be there to guide you through the night  
Complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closed in,  
And you shut your weary eyes  
I'll be there as I have always been  
With just one more surprise.