

Celebratory Prayer for Baptism

[on the baptism of one of our friends, a college student]

Creator God, who makes something from nothing and calls your creation “good,” who calls *us* by name into the waters of baptism,
come and celebrate with us.

Redeemer God, who hears the voice of John the Baptizer, gets your feet muddy on the banks of the Jordan, who goes under the water and comes back up,
come and celebrate with us.

Sustainer God, who appears as a dove, who equips and comforts and prepares us for ministry, even if it means heading into the desert first,
come and celebrate with us.

Our Trinity, who are yourself a community, bind us together with [*name of person being baptized*] as we add her gifts, her strengths, her sweet spirit, and her calling to ours. As we commit to pray for and encourage [*name*] this morning, teach us how to celebrate.

As we celebrate her testimony—give us ears to hear her story, and the feet to walk beside her on the path.

As we celebrate her gifts—give us eyes to see what God is doing through her, and the lungs to breathe in the fresh spirit she brings to this community.

As we celebrate her courage to join a church community right here, right where she is planted for these four years at [*name of local college*—give us the extra minutes necessary to receive her and show her the love and acceptance and hospitality we so often take for granted here at Faith.

And as we celebrate this new season in [*name's*] life, may her commitment and her presence among us reveal to us the beauty and blessing that is baptism, as well as the challenge to live anew this day as we remember our own baptisms.

In the name of the creating, redeeming, sustaining three-in-one God, who calls us ‘Beloved Children,’ we celebrate, and we pray. Amen.