

Date: January 8, 2023

Scripture Reference: Matthew 3:13-17

MUSINGS:

"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." When I read this phrase, I can't help but be filled with joy and breathe a sigh of peace. Jesus has arisen from the water and a voice from heaven speaks. Who would have thought that the actions of John, an outcast who lives in the middle of nowhere, would have ushered in the Messiah. It truly can be anyone who ushers in this new way of being. In our world full of chaos and pain, I have seen the Youth of my Church, though they may be young, usher in a new way of being and living in God's light. I hope you are able to bear witness to this, too.

CONSIDER:

- As you reflect on your previous year, what is a time that you have seen something new ushered in? Who led that charge?
- The Gospel of Matthew paints fantastic images through the text: Which of these images stick out to you and why?

ACTIVITY:

For this activity, go outside and go on a walk. Take a moment and stand in silence. Bask in the sun, feel the breeze, feel the rain, and take a few deep breaths. As you exhale, I invite you to say the refrain, "with whom I am well pleased."

Do this as many times as feels natural and allow this to serve as your prayer for the day.

-Written by Jacob Kennedy



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