

Children's sermon: October 10, 2021

**"Holy Water"**

I come in here this morning... and this plain-looking pail is on the altar.

No surprise ----- it's Fred.

"Why are you here? ... what's wrong??"

"Well ---- I just feel bad. I see all those other pails around the altar rail. They are so colorful. They are full of lots of colorful stuff. And here I am. All I do everyday is carry around water. Dump some here ... carry some there ... it's my old ordinary job."

"Fred ... it's almost time for church ... we can talk later."

Today during the 8:30 service ... it's time for a baptism. Yes, Brycen who is 8 and his brother D'Angelo who is 6 ----- are being baptized. They and their mom Jody come up to the baptismal font. I pick up this nice beautiful pitcher to pour the water into the font ... and Fred interrupts:

*"Sorry, Pastor Don, but I'm wondering. I certainly "pale" in comparison to that fancy pitcher.*

*Well ... uh ... would you be willing to use the water I am carrying for the baptism??*

*I know I'm pretty ordinary looking ... but carrying water is what I do. I would be honored (and even surprised!!) if this water could be used to baptize D'Angelo and Brycen."*

I can hear "Flat Jesus" over there saying ----- WHAT A GREAT IDEA!!

Fred, come over here.

Let's use your water. I'm pouring it now into the baptismal font.

In all the years we've been here ----- this is our first baptism using water from a plastic pail!@!!

My friends ----- look at Fred ... this simple plastic pail.

We've used his water ... the pail is now empty.

But you know something????????? ... this pail is so FULL!! ... it's overflowing!!

FULL of God's spirit.

FULL of God's goodness.

As we put Fred's water onto the heads of Brycen and D'Angelo ..... we are reminded of how God loves us, forgives us, and always stands beside us.

Amazing how God can take ordinary people like Fred ... and ordinary water ----- and turn all this into miracles of love.

I have some full buckets for you.

Please take one.

And, remember ----- the "fullest" of all the buckets is right here on the altar.