

# Baptism of Christ: Home Worship

## 9 January 2022

### *The Gathering*

*Take a few moments in silence to collect your thoughts and to acknowledge God's presence with you.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

Because God was merciful, he saved us through the water of rebirth and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism. Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises by confessing our sins in penitence.

### *The Confession*

Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen

## *The Absolution*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon us,  
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,  
and keep us in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord have mercy.  
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord have mercy.

## *Gloria*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive  
our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## ***The Collect***

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## ***Readings***

### **Isaiah 43.1-7**

But now thus says the Lord,  
    he who created you, O Jacob,  
    he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
    I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
    and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
    and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
    the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
    Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
Because you are precious in my sight,  
    and honoured, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
    nations in exchange for your life.  
Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.'

## Psalm 29

A Psalm of David.

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendour.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, over mighty waters.  
The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.  
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.  
The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl,  
and strips the forest bare;  
and in his temple all say, 'Glory!'

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for ever.  
May the Lord give strength to his people!  
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

### **Acts 8.14-17**

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

### **Luke 3.15-17,21,22**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

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 thong 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.’

## **Gospel Reading St Matthew 2.1-12**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its

rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### *Sermon*

### *Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## ***Prayers of Intercession***

*The following or another response may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
hear our prayer.

## ***The Peace***

We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.

## ***Eucharistic Prayer***

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy  
Father, almighty and eternal God. You celebrated your  
new gift of baptism in signs and wonders at the  
Jordan. Your voice was heard from heaven to awaken  
faith in the presence among us of your Word made  
flesh. Your Spirit was seen as a dove, revealing Jesus  
as your servant, and anointing him with the oil of  
gladness to preach the good news to the poor.  
Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and  
heaven, we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in  
heaven for ever praising you and saying:



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion for those at Home**

O loving God, in union with Christian people  
throughout the world and across the centuries  
gathered to celebrate the Eucharist, hearing your holy  
Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of  
your dear Son, I offer you praise and thanksgiving.  
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask  
you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself  
to you. Let nothing ever separate me from you.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy  
Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

### ***Post-Communion***

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens  
and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus  
your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete  
the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of  
the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ***The Blessing***

Christ the Sun of righteousness shine upon us, scatter  
the darkness from before our path, and make us ready  
to meet him when he comes in glory and the blessing  
of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us  
and remain with us always.  
Amen.

### ***Dismissal***

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.