

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## First Sunday after Epiphany - Baptism of Christ

### Hymn



#### God is working his purpose out

- 1 God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year,  
God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near;  
nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.
- 2 From utmost east to utmost west wherever feet have trod,  
by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,  
'Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me,  
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.'
- 3 What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase  
the love of God in all mankind, the reign of the Prince of Peace?  
What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea?
- 4 All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed;  
vainly we hope for the harvest-time till God gives life to the seed;  
yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,  
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

*Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841-1919)*



## **The Gathering**

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

*All*

**Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe!  
**From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord of glory be with you.  
**The Lord bless you.**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

*All*

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Invitation to confession**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins.

*cf Titus 2.11-14*

*All*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw you to himself,  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
and be cleansed from all your sins  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Collect**

Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism  
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.



## **The Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading**

**Genesis 1:1-5**

#### **Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, 'Let there be

light'; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

**Acts 19:1-7**

### **Paul in Ephesus**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' <sup>3</sup>Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' <sup>4</sup>Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— <sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them..

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Hymn**

### **The sinless one to Jordan came**

- 1 The sinless one to Jordan came  
to share our fallen nature's blame;  
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled  
and chose the path his Father willed.
- 2 Uprising from the waters there,  
the voice from heaven did witness bear  
that he, the Son of God, had come  
to lead his scattered people home.
- 3 Above him see the heavenly dove,  
the sign of God the Father's love,



now by the Holy Spirit shed  
upon the Son's anointed head.

4 How blessed that mission then begun  
to heal and save a race undone;  
straight to the wilderness he goes  
to wrestle with his people's foes.

5 Dear Lord, let those baptised from sin  
go forth with you, a world to win;  
and send the Holy Spirit's power  
to shield them in temptation's hour.

6 On you shall all your people feed  
and know you are the bread indeed,  
who gives eternal life to those-  
that with you died, and with you rose.

*George B Timms (1910-1997) based on Mark 1 vs 9-11 from English Praise (adapted)  
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## **Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

*All*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

## The Baptism of Jesus

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Hymn

### We shall draw water joyfully

*We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully;  
we shall draw water joyfully from the wellsprings of salvation.*



1 Truly God is our salvation;  
we trust, we shall not fear.  
For the Lord is our strength,  
the Lord is our song;  
he became our Saviour.  
*Chorus*

2 Give thanks, O give thanks to the Lord;  
give praise to his holy name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to all of the nations;  
proclaim his greatness.  
*Chorus*

Paul Inwood (born 1947)  
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## The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
Washed clean by the waters of baptism,  
let us pray that we may live the life to which he has called us.

Lord Jesus, eternal Word,  
proclaimed as the Christ by John the forerunner,  
hear us as we pray for all who proclaim your word ...  
Lord of truth,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, baptizing with the Spirit and with fire,  
strengthen us to withstand all the trials of our faith ...  
Lord of truth,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, bringing forgiveness to all who repent,  
teach your Church dependence on your grace ...  
Lord of truth,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, fulfilment of the promises of old,  
give hope to all who suffer or are ignored ...  
Lord of truth,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, beloved Son of the Father,  
anoint us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit ...  
Lord of truth,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, bringer of hope,  
share with all the faithful the riches of eternal life ...  
Lord of truth,  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
in you the Father makes us and all things new.  
Transform the poverty of our nature  
by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory.  
**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Believing the promises of God, so we pray:

**All**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**



## **The Dismissal**

### **Hymn**

#### **Source and fount of all creation**



1

Source and fount of all creation,  
pour your Spirit from above  
on the bearers of your image,  
offspring of a human love.  
Human hopes and human graces  
break beneath the weight of sin;  
fear and envy wrench asunder  
world without and self within.

- 2 Human love is unavailing  
counter-weight to sin and strife;  
love of God alone can hold us  
on the way that leads to life.  
Praised be God, whose Son our Saviour  
human nature has restored,  
living, dying, raised in glory,  
to the likeness of its Lord.
- 3 Trace, O Christ, salvation's pattern,  
God and sinner reconciled,  
in an all-embracing story:  
new creation, new-born child.  
Word incarnate, world's Redeemer,  
here in us your work repeat,  
signed and sealed your own for ever,  
till the pattern stands complete.
- 4 Christ our universal Saviour,  
nature's poet, nature's priest,  
through life's troubled waters bring us

to the Eucharistic feast,  
where rejoicing saint and sinner  
praise the Lord of time and space,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
fount of being, source of grace.

*Peter Baelz (1923-2000)*  
© Successor to Peter Baelz

## **Acclamation**

The Father's voice bears witness to the Son.

*All* **God has revealed himself to us.**

The Son bows his head beneath the waters of baptism.

*All* **God has revealed himself to us.**

The Spirit as a dove descends from heaven.

*All* **God has revealed himself to us.**

Submitting to John's baptism, Christ delivers us from bondage.

*All* **God has revealed himself to us.**

## **The Dismissal Gospel**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John 1.32-34*

John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Blessing**

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory  
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

We have come to Christ, the living water.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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