



Worship for Sunday 10th January 2021

Baptism of Christ

Welcome

Good morning and welcome to service on this feast of the Baptism of Christ. Welcome if you are joining us on Zoom or following the service at home, it is lovely to have you with us as we gather to worship as the family of God in this place. As we prepare for worship this morning, let us take a moment to still ourselves in the presence of our loving heavenly father.

Call to worship

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A gathering prayer

Jesus, we gather to meet you in word, in spirit and in community. Gather us, inspire us, be present in our worship, and send us out to see you at work in the world around us. **Amen**

Hymn: Crown him with many Crowns

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.

Prayers of penitence

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So, let us turn away from sin and turn to the Lord, confessing our sins in penitence and faith. *Silence.*

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.

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for Baptism of Christ

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Reading: Genesis 1: 1-5

A prayer of thanksgiving

We give thanks for the voice of those who speak encouragement into our lack of confidence;
Who speak affirmation into our lack of self-esteem;
Who speak truth into our lack of clarity;
Who speak wisdom into our lack of understanding;
Who speak healing into our lack of wholeness;
Who speak patience into our lack of time;
Who speak challenge into our lack of gratitude;
Who speak silence into our lack of stillness.
We give thanks and pray that we, too, might speak your voice in your name and to your glory. **Amen**

Hymn: Come people of the risen King

Reading: Mark 1: 4-11

Talk

I have made a video of the talk.

Creed

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Hymn: I heard the voice of Jesus say

A way into prayer

Sit quietly. Slowly say your name and imagine God saying, "You (put your name here) are my child, my beloved. With You I am well pleased" How does it make you feel? Say it over and over several times until it really sinks into your being.

Prayers

I have made a video of the prayers.

Let us pray to the God that calls each of us by name. Let us pray.

Loving father fill the church with such joy in believing that all Christians overflow with love, compassion, generosity, and humility as they work to build up the kingdom of God and share your love and kindness with the world. Let us walk your way and live your life. Lord strengthen our faith in these uncertain times. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving father fill the arenas of leadership and conflict with sharpened consciences and with courage, so that wise decisions are made, needs met and wrongs righted. We continue our prayers for all those affected by the coronavirus, for the sick, the bereaved, the anxious, the fearful, the lonely, those struggling with their mental health and well-being and for all those dealing with the economic effects. We give thanks for all those offering support and showing kindness at this time, give us the grace and courage to reach out with your love and kindness. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving father fill every home with your love and peace. We pray for harmony and understanding in our relationships with family, friends, and neighbours; for the willingness both to give and receive and for the generosity of forgiving

love. We pray for our local schools as they support children and families during these challenging times and for all families who are home schooling. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving father fill us with your practical compassion, may all you suffer be heard, comforted, and cared for. In a moment of silence, we name before you any we know you are suffering whether in body mind or spirit. *Silence.* Surround them and those who love and care for them with your healing, comfort, and peace. We pray for the NHS and all those who work in care and nursing homes, giving thanks for all the kindness and compassion they show to others. Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving father we give thanks for the lives of all those who have recently died. We pray for all those who are grieving at this time especially those who are struggling, surround them with your comfort, love, and hope. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Loving father as we rest in your presence, we take a moment to offer our own prayers to you. *Silence.* Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Loving father fill our mouths with praise and our heart with gratitude for all the light and love that surrounds us. Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

The peace

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come. Has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace.

I know that we are not together physically today and not able to share the peace in our normal way. However, this does not mean that we are not able to share the peace. Bring to mind members of our church family and as you do wish them God's peace. "..... (the name of a member of our church family) God's peace be with you.

Hymn: To God be the glory

We go out

Living Lord, we thank you that we are called to be a community of your new creation, bound together by your peace. Help us to listen for the voice of the Spirit in all we do this week, and to tell the story of life that is found in you, our saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, through the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and service the lord. In the name of Christ. Amen

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