

The Priory Church Christchurch



Congregational Eucharist with hymns

Sunday 9th January 2022

Baptism of Christ

Welcome to this Eucharist on the Feast of the Baptism of the Christ. The Church keeps this festival on the Sunday after Epiphany. By focussing on Jesus' baptism at the hands of his cousin, John the Baptist, we are drawn both to the beginnings of Jesus' public ministry and of the significance of our own baptism into the Body of Christ.

We depend on the generosity of everyone who comes to the Priory to help us preserve the building for future generations as a place of welcome, worship and mission. If you would like to give by cash, and are a taxpayer, please use one of our yellow Gift Aid envelopes and be sure to fill in your name and address and sign the declaration. For those who do not carry cash, there will be contactless machines near the exit which enable you to give by using your bank card. The current default setting is for a gift of £5. However you choose to give, your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Please ensure that all mobile 'phones are switched off.

Photography, sound and video recordings are not permitted at our services.

Wearing a face-covering is now mandatory for places of worship, except for those who are exempt.

Those who wish to continue to sit in a pod, with screens in place, should please sit in the South side of the Nave.

Thank you for helping us keep one another safe.

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The Gathering

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
Truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept for the name that is dear;
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Words: J. S. B. Monsell (1811-75)

Tune: Was Lebet

THE GREETING

President Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

All **and also with you.**

Canon Charles Stewart, presiding at this service, welcomes the congregation and prays this opening prayer.

Grant us, Lord, who behold your glory,
to drink from the waters of the new creation
flowing from the river of life at your baptism.
Give us the wings of the Spirit,
that we may hasten to meet you at your coming,
and praise you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

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.

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth,
Your saving power among the nations:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

President May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour,
forgive us our sins, and make us holy
to serve him in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

sung by the Lower Voices

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace,
good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins
of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand
of the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy,
thou only art the Lord,
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Music: Herbert Sumsiom (1899-1995)

THE COLLECT

President Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

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. **Amen.**

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST READING 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.'

After the reading

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

THE SECOND READING 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.

After the reading

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN

The race that long in darkness pined
Have seen a glorious light;
The people dwell in day, who dwelt
In death's surrounding night.

To hail thy rise, thou better Sun,
The gathering nations come,
Joyous as when the reapers bear
The harvest-treasures home.

To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is given;
Him shall the tribes of earth obey,
Him all the hosts of heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
For evermore adored;
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
The great and mighty Lord.

His power increasing still shall spread;
His reign no end shall know:
Justice shall guard his throne above,
And peace abound below.

Words: John Morison (1750-98)

Tune: Dundee,

Please remain standing

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

All **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3. 15–17, 21–22

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

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

All **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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Revd Tom Stuckey

Please stand

THE CREED

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

President In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

In the intercessions these responses may be used

All Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** **or** Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final petition

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please stand

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

THE PEACE

President 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.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;
Behold his hands and side,
Those wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
As of that Rose the Stem;
The Root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
And all be prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
And round his piercèd feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me,
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

Words: Matthew Bridges (1800-94)

*Tune: Diademata
George Elvey (1816-93)*

THE OFFERTORY PRAYERS

President Open the heavens, Holy Spirit, for us to see Jesus interceding for us; may we be willing to share his baptism, ready to share his cup and strengthened to serve him for ever. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise**

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:

Choir Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

President Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

All Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying, you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

President And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins
of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

All We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are welcome to receive Communion at this service. **Please wait in your seat until directed by one of the sidesmen. Thank you.***

During Communion, the choir sings Agnus Dei and the motet 'Panis Angelicus', music by Casciolini.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

President 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.

All **Amen.**

All then say

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

HYMN

Now is eternal life,
If risen with Christ we stand,
In him to life reborn,
And holden in his hand;
No more we fear death's ancient dread
In Christ arisen from the dead.

For God the living God,
Stooped down to man's estate;
By death destroying death,
Christ opened wide life's gate:
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;
Who lives in him shall never die.

Unfathomed love divine,
Reign thou within my heart;
From thee nor depth nor height,
Nor life nor death can part;
Our life is hid with God in thee,
Now and through all eternity.

Words: G.W. Briggs (1875-1959)

*Tune: Christchurch,
Charles Steggall (1826-1905)*

THE BLESSING

President The Lord be with you,
All **and also with you.**

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. **Amen.**

All Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.