

The Baptism of Jesus

"A voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matt 3:1,2)

Call to Worship

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might forever and ever. Amen!

(Rev 5:12-13)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.

Psalm 100

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice. Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, Come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid he did us make: We are his flock, he doth us feed, And for his sheep he doth us take. O enter then his gates with praise, Approach with joy his courts unto: Praise, laud, and bless his name always, For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good, His mercy is for ever sure; His truth at all times firmly stood, And shall from age to age endure.

> William Kethe (1594) Scottish Psalter

Confession and Assurance

Hear the summary of the whole law, from our Lord Jesus Christ:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matt 22:37-40)

Have mercy on us, O God

According to your unfailing love;
According to your great compassion.

God's word tells us:

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 Jn 1:8-9)

Let us therefore confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or be seated.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful God,

We confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that we are not able to understand, but which are all known to You. For this reason, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.", "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." (Mark 10:45; Isa 35:10)

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer!
There is no more
for heaven now to give.
He is my joy,
my righteousness and freedom,
My steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing, "All is mine",
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken. For by my side, the Saviour He will stay. I labour on in weakness and rejoicing, For in my need, His power is displayed. To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me, Through the deepest valley He will lead. Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome, Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven.
The future sure,
the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled
and suffered for my pardon.
And He was raised
to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing, "I am free",
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus.
For He has said
that He will bring me home.
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.
Farren, Thompson, Robinson

God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9, The Lord's Chosen Servant, p. 602

This is the Word of the Lord, Thanks be to God

Psalm 78:9-20 (Forgetting God's Works and Wonders)

The Ephraimites, armed with the bow, turned back on the day of battle. They did not keep God's covenant, but refused to walk according to his law.

They forgot his works and the wonders that he had shown them.

In the sight of their fathers he performed wonders in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan. He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a fiery light.

He split rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Yet they sinned still more against him, rebelling against the Most High in the desert.

They tested God in their heart by demanding the food they craved.

They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?

He struck the rock so that water gushed out and streams overflowed.

Can he also give bread or provide meat for his people?"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever, age after age.

Amen!

Second Reading: Matt 3:17-4:11, p. 808

This is the Word of the Lord, Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Baptism of Jesus (Mark Payne)

Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid

Creator Spirit, by whose aid
The world's foundations first were laid,
Come, visit every pious mind;
Come, pour thy joy on human kind;
From sin and sorrow set us free,
And make thy temples worthy thee.

O source of uncreated light,
The Father's promised Paraclete,
Thrice holy fount, thrice holy fire,
Our hearts with heavenly love inspire;
Come, and thy sacred unction bring
To sanctify us while we sing.

Plenteous of grace, descend from high Rich in thy sevenfold energy; Make us eternal truths receive, And practise all that we believe; Give us thyself, that we may see The Father and the Son by thee.

Immortal honour, endless fame,
Attend the almighty Father's name;
The Saviour Son be glorified,
Who for lost man's redemption died;
And equal adoration be,
Eternal Paraclete, to thee.

John Dryden (1631-1701)

The Apostles 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 power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

Please be seated.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The stewards will distribute the wine and bread. Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father, we offer you eternal praise and thanks that you have so blessed us poor sinners, that we would be drawn into the Communion of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom you have delivered to death for us, and whom you have given us as the food and drink of life eternal.

We humbly beg you, heavenly Father, to keep us as faithful members of your church, to strengthen us by your Spirit, and to draw us together in love and unity, that we may serve through those good works which you have prepared for us to do through Jesus Christ our Lord, and for His glory.

Amen.

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. "Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce." (Prov 3:9)

Psalm 146

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend;
They shall die, to dust returning,
And their purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blest whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.
Heaven and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free,
Raises those bowed down with anguish,
Makes the sightless eyes to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless and the widow,
Judgement on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise; I will sing the glorious praises Of my God through all my days. Over all God reigns forever, Through all ages He is King; Unto Him, your God, O Zion, Joyful hallelujahs sing.

> © Public Domain Trinity Hymnal, 1990

Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Notices & Notes

Please diarise and pray for the following:

Tue 24 th Oct	Women in the Word	Hilary		
Thu 26 th Oct	Open Air Mission visit at church * Refreshments at 7:00; Start at 7:15 *	7.00 pm		
Sun 29 nd Oct	Baptism of Elias Selby * Church lunch *	Rev. Tim Iles		
Further Ahead				
Sun 5 th Nov	Morning Worship & Adult Sunday School (Holy Spirit)	Dr. Bob Letham		

The Gospel of Matthew

-	1:1 - 4:16	The Person of Jesus, the Christ
		The Preparation of Jesus (Baptism & Testing ch. 3-4)
-	4:17 - 16:20	The Proclamation and Ministry of Jesus (Galilee)
-	16:21 - 25:46	The Proclamation and Ministry of Jesus (Judea)
-	26:1 - 28:20	The Passion, Resurrection & Commission of Jesus

T

	Fulfilment of Chr			
-	Matt 1	The Son of Abraham		
-	Matt 1-2	The Son of David		
-	Matt 1	The Greater Adam		
-	Matt 2-7	The Greater Moses (Sermon on the Mount)		
-	Matt 24-25	The Son of Man		
-	Matt 2, 26-28	The Son of God		