

# Welcome to a Service of the Word



**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Baptism of Christ**

## **The Greeting**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

## **Hymn: O Worship the King**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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**

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.

*Titus 3.5*

## Confession

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
and against one another,  
in thought, and word, and deed.  
We are truly sorry for our pride,  
and for our lack of faith,  
of understanding and of love.  
We repent of our narrow-mindedness,  
of our bitterness and our prejudices.  
Pardon and forgive us,  
save us and renew us,  
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Absolution

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

## Praise

Let us give thanks to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing.**

Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ,  
**that we might be holy and blameless before him.**

Let us praise God for the glory of his grace,  
**for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son.**

To Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
**give praise and dominion,  
honour and might,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*cf Ephesians 1.3–6*

### **Venite – a Song of Triumph**

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord; ♦  
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving ♦  
and be glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God ♦  
and a great king above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth ♦  
and the heights of the mountains are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, ♦  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us worship and bow down ♦  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God; ♦  
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

## First Reading

Isaiah 42.1–9 or Acts 10.34–43

*At the end:*

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn: Meekness and Majesty**

## Gospel Reading

Matthew 3.13–end

*At the end:*

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Sermon

**Hymn: All my hope on God is founded**

## The Apostles' Creed

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

**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**

*This response may be used:*  
Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

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

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

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom  
in the words our Saviour taught us.  
**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.**

### **The Collect**

*The Collect is said, and the people respond:*  
**Amen.**

### **Hymn: How lovely on the mountains**

### **The Blessing**

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water  
welling up to eternal life,  
perfect in you the image of his glory;  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;  
**Amen.**

### **Notices**

### **Hymn: My Lighthouse**

### **Dismissal**

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

*Common Worship: Prayers and Services for the Church of England, and New Patterns for Worship*

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