

The Holy Eucharist



The Baptism of Christ

The Gathering

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

All **From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Within this season of Epiphany, today we celebrate Jesus' baptism at the hands of John, when the heavens were opened and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God's beloved Son. It is also a time to recall our own baptism: our response to God's great act of love; our 'thank you' to God for the gifts of the Incarnation, of God living among us. It is part of the ongoing celebration connecting Advent, Christmas and Epiphany together.

Hymn - Source and fount of all creation

sung by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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*

The Collect

The Collect is prayed and all respond, boldly

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading - *Genesis 1:1-5*

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

3 And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5 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.**

Gospel Reading - *Mark 1:4-11*

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

All **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Mark*.

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

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. 6 John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And this was his message: 'After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

⁸ I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Homily

Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

A Minister invites the people to light their Baptism, or another, candle.



God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

All **Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Father, we give you thanks and praise
for your gift of water in creation;
for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,
bringing light and life;
for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
baptized in the river Jordan.

We bless you for your new creation,
brought to birth by water and the Spirit,
and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,
washing away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit
restore the beauty of your creation,
and bring those who are baptized
to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,
anoint your children with power from on high,
and make them one with Christ
in the freedom of your kingdom.

For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,
now and for ever.

All **Alleluia. Amen.**

Act of Penitence and Dedication

God of truth,
you are faithful to the covenant you have made with us;
look in mercy on your people.

From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have broken the pledges of our baptism,
and failed to be your disciples.

From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Though we are saved by Christ
and dead to sin through the deep waters of death,
we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.

From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have shown indifference to those in need
and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth.
From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember
your repeated forgiveness of our sins.
From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Today we rejoice and give thanks
because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the
Jordan. Through the waters you have given us the mystery of
baptism for the remission of our sins.
From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Through water and Spirit
you give us new life as the people of God,
and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant.
From all our sins, O Lord:

All **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Almighty God,
in our baptism you have consecrated us
to be temples of your Holy Spirit.
May we, whom you have counted worthy,
nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith,
and worship you with upright lives;
through Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on *us*, forgive *us our* sins,
and bring *us* to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

At the end all say

Merciful Father

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

Hymn - God is working his purpose out

sung by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields

**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.**

**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.'**

**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?**

**All we can do is nothing worth
unless God blesses the deed;
vainly we hope for the harvest-time t
ill 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 Liturgy of the Sacrament

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.

cf 2 Corinthians 1.22

The Peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

Prayers at the Preparation of the Table

Open the heavens, Lord our God,
and send your transforming Spirit
on us and on these gifts.

May we who are baptized into Christ
be ready to share his cup of suffering
and strengthened to serve him for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

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:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

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 *St Barnabas*
and 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.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,
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

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,
All **you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The president lifts the priest wafer and says

The Body of Christ.

All **Amen.**

The president lifts the wine and says

The Blood of Christ.

All **Amen.**

You are invited to say the words of The Act of Spiritual Communion whilst the president receives the Communion on behalf of the people.

All **My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

The Post Communion prayer is said, then all say:

All **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.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Blessing

May God the Father,
who led the wise men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from Light,
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

All **Amen.**

May God the Son,
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

All **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you
who have come to the waters of new birth.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

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

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

Closing hymn - O worship the Lord

sung by St Martin's Voices

**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!**

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

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