

*This Week's Worship: The Baptism of Jesus*

**Opening**

Wherever we come together,  
**God is with us.**  
**God is here.**

We come together to say sorry  
We come together to say Thank you  
We come together to ask for God's help  
We come together to hear God's story  
We come together to celebrate God's love.

Wherever we come together,  
**God is with us.**  
**God is here.**

**Saying Sorry**

*Hold onto a stone and think about things that you have done this week you would like to say sorry for.*

God loves us and forgives us when we are sorry for wrong things we have done.  
For times this week when we have made others sad.  
**We are sorry.**

For times this week when we have not helped others  
**We are sorry.**

For times this week when we have not looked after your creation,  
**We are sorry**

For times this week when we have been selfish  
**We are sorry**

*Put the stone in a bowl of water*

As we leave these things behind, may God forgive us and give us a new, clean start today.  
**Amen**

**Saying thank you**

*To join in you will need: some slips of paper, some pens and an empty jam jar (you can join in without this for the first few weeks but can then join in when you have had the time to put some things in the jar!)  
Ask each person to draw or write down on one of the slips something they would like to say thank you for and put it in the jar. As we pray, pull a slip out of the jar and say thank you for what is written on it.  
Continue to fill the jar during the week.*

God, you are amazing and you have given us good things. We thank you for all your gifts to us.  
Thank you for...  
Amen

Thank you for...  
Amen

Thank you for...  
Amen

*Continue until everyone has had a chance to say something.*

### **Story and response**

Listen to this week's story or read a story from the Bible. This week's story is from Mark 1: 4-11

I wonder which part of this story you liked the most?  
I wonder what surprised you about this story?  
I wonder what this story makes you feel?  
I wonder where you are in this story?  
Do you wonder anything about this story?

### **Prayers**

You will need: a bowl of water, a dove shape for every person

When Jesus was baptised by John, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove and God's voice said, "You are my Son, the one I love. I am very pleased with you." When we are baptized we also become part of God's family. Who is in your family? How do you know that you belong to a your family? How do you know that you belong to God's family? Write your name on the dove shape and float it on the water. Pray the prayer below.

**God, thank you that we are part of your family and part of a human family. Send the Holy Spirit to help us and be with us in the coming year. Help us to learn more about your love for us and help us to show that love to others. Amen.**

### **Close**

Wherever we come together,

**God is with us.**

**God is here.**

May God bless us.

May we know that we are loved

May we know that we are cared for.

May we know God's hope.

**God is with us**

**God is here**

**Amen.**

*Extinguish the candle.*

