

## Crosslacon Morning Worship 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### The Baptism of Christ (Epiphany 1)

*To take part in the renewal of baptismal vows, please have to hand before the service a jug of water and a bowl.*

#### Welcome

#### Opening Responses

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

**From the rising of the sun to its setting  
Your name is proclaimed in all the earth.**

The Lord of Glory be with you.

**The Lord bless you.**

#### Hymn: Source and fount of all creation

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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

#### Collect

Heavenly Father,  
At the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
May we recognise him as our Lord  
And know ourselves to be your beloved children;  
Through Jesus Christ our Saviour  
Amen.

#### Epistle Reading: I John 3: 1-3

See what kind of love the Father has given to us in that we should be called God's children, and that is what we are! Because the world didn't recognize him, it doesn't recognize us.

Dear friends, now we are God's children, and it hasn't yet appeared what we will be. We know that when he appears we will be like him because we'll see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves even as he is pure.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

**Alleluia.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:

**Glory to you O Lord**

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way”  
“a voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.’”

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

The is the gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you O Christ.**

**For the word of God in Jesus,  
For God’s wisdom all around us,  
For God’s word and wisdom in us,  
Thanks be to God.**

### **Reflection**

#### **An Act of Thanksgiving for Baptism**

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

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

*Pour the water into the bowl*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**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  
move upon these waters.  
Restore through them 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.  
**Alleluia. Amen.**

I saw water flowing from the threshold of the temple.  
**Wherever the river flows  
everything will spring to life. Alleluia.**

On the banks of the river grow trees bearing every kind  
of fruit.  
**Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail.**

Their fruit will serve for food,  
their leaves for the healing of the nations.  
**For the river of the water of life  
flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.**

*The Prayer over the Water is followed by this act of  
reflective penitence and dedication.*

For all we have done in the world,  
that have been huddles in our memories reminders that  
only we know ourselves that show us  
as we really are...  
**May we lay them here by this water.**

May we place here by these waters all that reduces us  
and lessens us.

**May we lay them here by this water.**

May we place here by these waters  
the words used too often  
and the silences that have been too long.

**May we lay them here by this water.**

May we place here by these waters the anger we carry  
and the humiliation we have felt.

**May we lay them here by this water.**

May we place here by these waters  
the prejudice we have found in ourselves and the pain  
of its finding.

**May we lay them here by this water.**

**May we pick up here from these waters,**  
the hope of the kingdom and the invitation to follow.

**May we pick up here from these waters,**  
the new belonging that is ours and the fresh breath of  
the Spirit.

**May we pick up here from these waters,**  
the love that holds us anew and never lets us go.

**May we pick up here from these waters,**  
the sense of who we are,  
and the blessing we are in the world.

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

*You may use the water to make the sign of the cross on  
your forehead.*

'Come,' say the Spirit and the Bride.  
'Come forward, you who are thirsty,

receive the water of life  
the free gift to all who desire it.'

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

**Amen.**

### **Hymn: We Shall Draw Water Joyfully**

*We shall draw water joyfully,  
singing joyfully, singing joyfully;  
we shall draw water joyfully  
from the wellsprings of salvation.*

Truly God is our salvation;  
we trust, we shall not fear.  
For the Lord is our strength,  
the Lord is our song;  
he became our Saviour.

*Chorus*

Give thanks, O give thanks to the Lord;  
give praise to his holy name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to all of the nations;  
proclaim his greatness.

*Chorus*

*Paul Inwood (born 1947)  
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### **Prayers of Intercession**

Response:  
God, in your mercy,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

**Loving God,  
in the blessing that is your community  
may we find you among us and between us  
in the place we are right now,  
and know such a presence is your renewing,  
your reclaiming, your forgiving  
and calling into what is yet to be.  
So be it.  
Amen.**

**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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**And also with**

*You may like to share the peace via the comments box on Facebook Live if you are watching this live. Whilst we write our messages, we will listen to the anthem: 'Listen Sweet Dove.'*

**Blessing**

Beloved, forgiven and cherished,  
may you go in peace.  
Go in the knowledge  
that you are a treasured member of God's family,  
a companion with Jesus along life's journey,  
and forever accompanied by the Holy Spirit.  
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son  
and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you  
this day and always  
Amen.

**Sending prayer**

**May we follow the water  
and the story it invites in others.  
May we follow the word  
to the place where it is proclaimed and believed.  
May we follow the moment that stretches before us  
all.  
May we follow the love  
that gathers us in and sends us out.  
And may we follow you  
on the way, in grace, into the world.  
Amen.**

**Something to ponder in the week ahead...**

As a cherished part of God's family, we are called to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.  
(Ephesians 4:1-2)

- In what ways can we seek to live this out this week and every week?

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