

# Eucharist for Baptism of Christ

10<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **OPENING HYMN: 337 Source and fount of all creation**

All choral music in this service sung by St Martin in the Field's Choir

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 brings 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.

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

**Amen.**

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

## **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

*The people are invited to reflect on their sins. We keep a few moments of silence to remember before God our faults and the things we have done that are wrong. God promises us forgiveness, healing and a fresh start when we confess our sins in faith and penitence.*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**THE GLORIA** is said.

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.

**Amen.**

**COLLECT**

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING - Acts 19:1-7**

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' <sup>3</sup>Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' <sup>4</sup>Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— <sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING Mark 1:4-11**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### 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 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

*Response:*

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 PEACE

*The priest introduces the peace.*

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Hymn 99 'Hail to the Lord's Anointed' is sung while the altar is prepared.*

Hail to the Lord's anointed;  
Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,

His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgressions,  
And rule in equity.

He comes, with succour speedy,  
To those who suffer wrong:  
To help the poor and needy,  
And bid the weak be strong:  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turned to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth:  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
Spring in His path to birth:  
Before Him, on the mountains,  
Shall peace the herald go;  
And righteousness in fountains,  
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him,  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him,  
His praise all people sing;  
To Him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,  
He on His throne shall rest;  
From age to age more glorious,  
All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever  
His changeless name of love.

### **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The priest praises God for his mighty acts and we respond:*

**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.**

*The priest recalls the Last Supper.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Prayer continues.*

*At the end we respond:*

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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 forever.  
Amen.**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

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

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

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

Jesus is the lamb of God  
Who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

### **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

*You are invited to use the prayer for Spiritual Communion below asking Jesus to be with you now.*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.

*The anthem 'Listen, sweet dove' by Ives is sung.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

*A blessing is given.*

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

*The ministers depart. An organ voluntary is played.*

## Spiritual Communion.

The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ. The form of prayer offers Christians an opportunity to give thanks for their communion with him, particularly at times when they would ordinarily be present at the Eucharist.

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.