



Church Alive Zoom and at Home Worship Sheet

The Baptism of Christ – 10th January 2021



(For the Zoom service:

Welcome to Zoom Church Alive.

We will meet at 11am and start the service at 11.05am. Please use MUTE on your computer at 11.05am for the service, especially wherever we are singing together, except in the sections where marked. If you'd like to say something at other times, please 'raise your hand' (you will find this in the Participants section) or type it in under 'chat' and it will appear on the screen.)

This is the first appearance of Jesus as an adult and comes at the beginning of his ministry. His baptism is a new beginning and a transformation. John the baptizer says that he is not worthy to untie Jesus' shoes. He recognises that Jesus will be able to do much greater things by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Opening Song: For The Beauty of the Earth
<https://youtu.be/8RE9S5JhI8E>

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer:

This the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We are the family of God.

And are called by God's name.

We are heirs of Christ's kingdom.

And born of the Spirit.

Let us, therefore, come together in thanksgiving.

Amen.

If you are able, and it is safe to do so, you might like to light your candle at this point as well and hold up your candle as we say our prayer together.

**All: Lord, we light this candle,
to remind us that you are the light of the world.
As we gather together in spirit,
make our voices ready to sing your praise;
our hearts open to receive your love
and our minds alive to your Spirit.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



We seek God's healing and forgiveness:

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith. *Silence is kept for a time.*

Lord, when you came into the world, things changed. When we came into a relationship with you, things changed. Life became filled with a new sense of purpose and peace. But, Lord, sometimes we let you down by doing wrong things or failing to do right things.

We are sorry, Lord.

Sometimes, Lord, through pride, stubbornness or fear we build barriers and keep others at arm's length – even you, Lord.

We are sorry, Lord.

At times we give in to our weaknesses and temptations, failing to draw on your strength. At times we are troubled by difficult situations and find it hard to trust you.

We are sorry, Lord.

Help us to turn such things around and turn to you. Help us to learn from the past and, drawing on your strength and peace, make a better future.

Amen.

We hear words assuring us of God's forgiveness

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



Thanksgiving: A chance to think about the things we are thankful for in amongst all of the restrictions and changes in our lives.

Bible Reading Mark 1:4-11 The Baptism of Christ – New Living Translation

⁴This messenger was John the Baptist. He was in the wilderness and preached that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. ⁵All of Judea, including all the people of Jerusalem, went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. ⁶His clothes were woven from coarse camel hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. For food he ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷John announced: “Someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I’m not even worthy to stoop down like a slave and untie the straps of his sandals. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!”

⁹One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. ¹⁰As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice from heaven said, “You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.”

On Zoom - Talk

At Home - please use the separate Resources sheet.

Song: She Sits Like A Bird

<https://youtu.be/Gb2uGWqBAE8>

Prayers

(On zoom - We will play a very short piece of music, during which you can add your prayers to the chat and then they will be included in the prayer time).

Today we might particularly pray for:

People's minds to be open to your message at this time.

All who minister in your name.

All those who have been or are affected by the COVID-19 virus; those suffering illness, those providing care and treatment, those seeking long-term solutions. for the swift and safe deployment of the vaccine

For the leaders of the nations as they deal with balancing health and economic pressures which will affect us all. For democracy in the United States and other countries to be honoured

Our friends and families, especially those who are apart at this time

Those we know who are sick or who need our prayers at this time.

All who have recently died and the families and friends that mourn them

All: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

**All: 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.

Song: Breathe On Me Breath Of God

https://youtu.be/WP_VjCCAJs4

Sending Out Prayer and Blessing

**Lord, help us to be open to your prompting
as we seek to discover what you would have us be and do.
Remind us again and again that you have promised to be our
guide and companion on our journey.**

**Help us to look forward with renewed commitment,
and inform our thinking and speaking and doing.**

And the blessing...

Amen.

The Peace

Go in the light and peace of Christ

Thanks be to God



(On zoom - We share the peace with each other using sign language

Fellowship time – unmute. We will go around the group so that everyone has a chance to let us know how they are and any news they want to share).