

St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Baptism of Christ**

**11th January 2015**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 93 ‘When Jesus came to Jordan’

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Priest: 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

Priest: The Lord of glory be with you.

All: The Lord bless you

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

*(sing)* LordGod, 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.

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*

Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism:

*[silence is kept]*

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**

#### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**A reading from the book of Genesis** *(Gen 1. 1–5)*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 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.

**Hymn:**  *(remain seated)*  34 ‘On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry’

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles** *(Acts 19. 1–7)*

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the in land regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 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.’ Then he said, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ They answered, ‘Into John’s baptism.’ 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.’ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual hymn:** *(please stand)* 92 ‘Christ, when for us...’

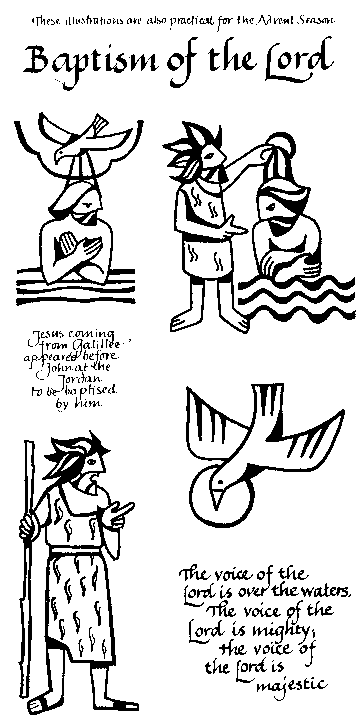
##### THE GOSPEL

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

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark *(Mk 1. 4-11)*

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

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. 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

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

#### **THE SERMON**

#### **THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY BAPTISM**

Priest: 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 will thirst no more

Priest: Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All: who keeps his promise for ever.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Priest: 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.

All: Alleluia. Amen

Priest: I saw water flowing from the threshold of the Temple

All: Wherever the river flows everything will spring to life. Alleluia!

Priest: On the banks of the river grow trees bearing every kind of fruit.

All: Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail.

Priest: Their fruit will be served for food,

their leaves for the healing of the nations.

All: For the river of the water of life

flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

An Act of Penitence and Dedication

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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.

Priest: We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember

your repeated forgiveness for our sins:

From all our sins, O Lord:

All: Wash us, and we shall be clean.

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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 our Lord. **Amen**

*Water may be sprinkled over the people and the priest says:*

Priest: ‘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.**

#### **THE INTERCESSIONS**

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father

*The prayers are led by a member of the congregation. Each section ends:*

Lord, in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

After the final petition:

Reader: Merciful Father,

All: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

* **those who are ill:** (4) Doris Jepson, Mark Shepherd, Rob Mudd, Maggie Little, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Jacqueline Willington, Finley McKean-Owens, John Webb (3) Audrey Kirk, Robert Murphy, Emma Bowie, Jim Peers, Etheline Worrall (2) Lynn Burman, Graham Belton, Michael Stringer, Paul Hogden, Annette Shaw (1) Mary Lowe, Norma Fox, Stan and Joan Loughead, Tina Mason, Rhia Mae Roberts, Beryl Hayes
* **those who have died**: Ken Hollingsworth, Mary Webb, Joyce Graham, Alison Shaw, Gladys Kenwright, Stephen Lafferty
* **those whose year's mind falls at this time**:

***Sunday:*** Cyril Lees

***Monday:*** James Clayton, Samuel Davies

***Wednesday:*** Sarah Shelley, Elsie Callan

***Thursday:*** Bill Edmonds

***Saturday:***Jim Fisher, Jean Roberts

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

**The Peace**   *(please stand)*

Priest 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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Everyone is invited to exchange a sign of peace.

**Offertory Hymn:** 166 ‘Crown him with many crowns’

### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER E *(please kneel)*

Priest: The Lord is here

All: His Spirit is with us

Priest: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give thanks and praise

Priest: 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 singing:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are

*(sing)* full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All *(sing)*: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Priest: Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the St Andrew and all the saintsto feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Priest: 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.

Priest: 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.**

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

*(sing)* 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.

Priest: 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.**

Holy Communion is administered at the front of Church. Everyone is warmly invited to receive Holy Communion at this Eucharist. Those who prefer to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward at the same time.

During the distribution of the Sacrament, the following hymns are sung:

308 ‘Just as I am, without one plea’

470 ‘I the Lord of sea and sky’

**After Communion:**

*After a period of silent reflection:*

Priest: Let us pray: 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 your new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  **Amen.**

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.

Priest The Father’s voice bears witness to the Son

**All: God has revealed himself to us.**

Priest The Son bows his head beneath the waters of baptism.

**All: God has revealed himself to us.**

Priest The Spirit as a dove descends from heaven.

**All: God has revealed himself to us.**

Priest Submitting to John’s baptism, Christ delivers us from bondage.

**All: God has revealed himself to us.**

**The Dismissal Gospel** *(please stand)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John *(Jn 1. 32-34)*

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

John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, “He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.” And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

**The Blessing**

Priest: 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. **Amen**

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

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

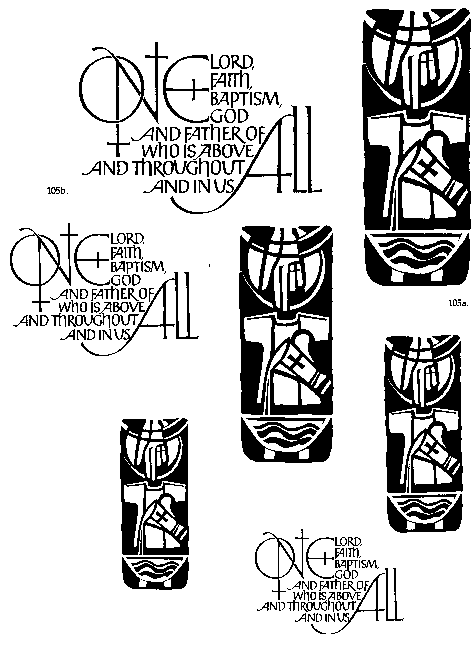
**Hymn:** 386 ‘Be thou my vision’

Priest: We have come to Christ, the living water.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ. Amen

After the service, tea and coffee are served. Please do join us.

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Services and Notices for the coming week:

Tues 13th: 7.30pm Deanery Synod here at St Andrew’s

No Parish Office or Choir Practice tonight

Wed 14th: 10.00am Charity Shop re-opens

7.00pm Eucharist

Thurs 15th:10.30am Eucharist

12 noon Funeral of Ken Hollingsworth

4.30pm School Data and Curriculum Meeting

7.30pm Chapter Meeting

**Next Sunday The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

**(18th Jan) 10.00am Sung Eucharist**

**Tea and Coffee:** will be served after the service. All welcome

**Advance Notices:**

The PCC will meet on Tuesday 20th January at 8.00pm

The funeral of Gladys Kenwright will take place on Tuesday 20th January at 1.15pm.

**The Baptism of Christ 11th January 2015**

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father:

All kneel

Reveal your kingdom among the nations - may peace abound and justice flourish. We pray especially for Syria and Iraq, Sudan, Israel and Gaza; for neighbouring states and for the victory of diplomacy

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit and renew your Church with power from on high. We thank you for our baptism and pray for all who have been baptized in the past year, their parents and godparents.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

Deliver the oppressed, strengthen the weak, heal and restore your creation.

Especially we pray for Doris Jepson, Mark Shepherd, Rob Mudd, Maggie Little, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Jacqueline Willington, John Webb, Robert Murphy, Etheline Worrall, Lynn Burman, Graham Belton, Paul Hogden, Annette Shaw, Norma Fox, Tina Mason, Rhia Mae Roberts and Beryl Hayes; and for those who care for them.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

Draw into your kingdom those who have died and support those who have been bereaved. We pray for the souls of Ken Hollingsworth, Mary Webb, Joyce Graham, Alison Shaw, Gladys Kenwright, Stephen Lafferty and William Griffiths who have died recently and for James Clayton, Samuel Davies and Cyril Lees whose year’s minds fall at this time.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth,

we join our prayers with the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of our Lord, St Andrew and all the saints in glory.

Merciful Father,

All: accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

**The Baptism of Christ 11th January 2015**

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 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.

**Hymn:**  *(remain seated)*  34 ‘On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry’

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the in land regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 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.’ Then he said, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ They answered, ‘Into John’s baptism.’ 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.’ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God