

St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Baptism of Christ**

**10th January 2021**

**Please wear a mask. Separate households must sit apart. Only the choir can sing. Keep social distances. Keep safe. At the end of the service please leave the building. There should be no socialising according to current rules.**

*All the responses will be said.*

*We welcome the Rev Pam Lovatt as our celebrant and preacher today*

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** **92 ‘Christ, when for us you were baptised’**

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.

*(stand)* 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.

**Gradual hymn:**  **90 ‘Songs of thankfulness and praise’**

*(please stand)*

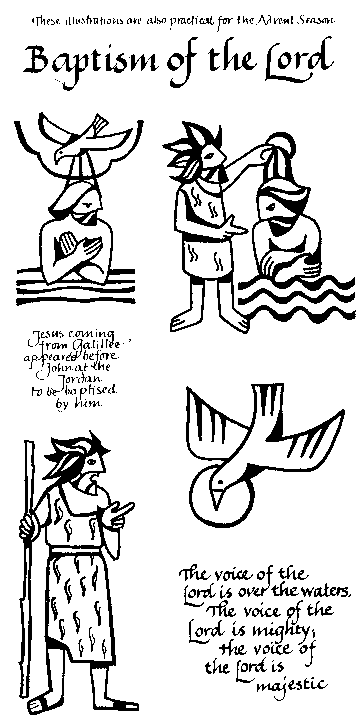
##### THE GOSPEL

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.

#### **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:** Marion Greatorex, Pauline Smith, Michelle Smith, Michael Stringer, Joyce Crozier, Pete Harris, Lynn Shaw,
* Bob Birbeck, Carl Howard
* **those who have died:** Dave Sutcliffe, Eileen Whitehead
* **those whose year's mind falls at this time**:

***Sunday:*** Peter Gosling, Lily Unsworth

***Monday:*** Cyril Lees

***Thursday:*** Sarah Shelley, Les Cooper

***Friday:***Bill Edmonds

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 share the peace with one another by waving or bowing or both*

### 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: 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.

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. Go up to the altar steps. Return by either side and not down the middle .Keep your mask on and remove to eat on the way back.

*During the distribution of the Sacrament, the following is sung:*

305 ‘I come with joy, a child of God’

**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:**  **591 ‘The kingdom of God is justice and joy’**

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

**Next Sunday The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

**(17th Jan) 10.00am Sung Eucharist with Fr Simon Fisher**

**The Baptism of Christ 10th January 2021**

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

All kneel

Shepherd of souls, give to us for the leadership of your Church in this parish a person after your own heart:

a woman of faith and prayer, filled with the spirit;

a woman of vision, wisdom and sound judgment;

a woman with a pastoral heart and a true love for people.

Prepare Gill Hitchen for her ministry among us and prepare us for her coming; and overrule in everything for the doing of your will and the furtherance of your glory.

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.

God of grace and glory ,you call us with your voice of flame  
to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of Baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work.  
We ask this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Lord, in your mercy

All: hear our prayer.

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

Especially we pray forMarion Greatorex, Pauline Smith, Michelle Smith, Michael Stringer, Joyce Crozier, Pete Harris, Eileen Whitehead, Lynn Shaw,Bob Birbeck, Carl Howard; 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 Dave Sutcliffe and Eileen Whitehead who have died recently and for Peter Gosling, Lily Unsworth, Cyril Lees, Sarah Shelley, Les Cooper and Bill Edmonds 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.

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**A reading from the book of Genesis**

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This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.