



SUNDAY
JANUARY
12
2025



BAPTISM OF JESUS

*At any time in the service when we invite you to stand
you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.*

ORGAN INTROIT

Prière à Notre-Dame

Léon Boëllmann

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**Fill thou my life, O faithful God,
in every part with praise,
that my whole being may proclaim
thy being and thy ways.**

**Not for the lip of praise alone,
nor ev'n the praising heart
I ask, but for a life made up
of praise in every part:**

**praise in the common things of life,
its goings out and in;
praise in each duty and each deed,
however small and mean;**

**not in the temple crowd alone
where holy voices chime,
but in the silent paths of earth,
the quiet rooms of time.**

**Fill every part of me with praise:
let all my being speak
of thee and of thy love, O God,
poor though I be, and weak.**

**So shalt thou, God, receive from me
the praise and glory due;
and so shall I begin on earth
the song for ever new.**

**So shall each fear, each fret, each care
be turned into a song,
and every winding of the way
the echo shall prolong;**

**so shall no part of day and night
from sacredness be free;
but all my life, in every step
be fellowship with thee.**

*Words: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889) alt.
Tune: Richmond, later form of melody by Thomas Haweis (1734-1820),
adapted by Samuel Webbe the younger (c.1770-1843). TIS 425*

WELCOME

Come people of God,
turn your hearts and minds to the light of Christ
even as we turn to the warmth of our summer sun.
Let us be ready to welcome the events and the people
who may become turning points in our lives.

**We welcome with eyes and hearts open,
ready to see God present in our summer world;
in the people we meet and in the things we do.**

Liturgist:

This is what God asks of you:
to act justly, to love tenderly,
and to walk humbly upon our earth.

**God of grace,
in whom we live and move and dance for joy,
guide our steps through the complexities of life;
widen our vision that our sight be not limited
by what we see, nor our wisdom by what we know,
nor our love by what we can accept. Amen.**

THE GLORIA

**Glorious are you, Mystery of Life,
essence of all creation.**

You are the symphony of stars and planets.

You are the music of the atoms within us.

**You are the dawn on mountain peaks,
the moonlight on evening seas.**

**Forest and farm, the rush of the city,
everything is embraced in your love.**

Glorious are you, O Jesus Christ,
Cosmic love in human flesh.

You graced the smallness of time and place
to teach us to dance to the music.

You walk on our seas and heal in our streets.

You make your home in our lives,
revealing that cross and resurrection
are one on the road to freedom.

**Glorious are you, O Spirit of Truth,
wisdom and breath of our being.**

You are the wind that sweeps our senses.

You are the fire that burns in our hearts.

**You are the needle of the inner compass,
always pointing to true North,**

**guiding us on the sacred dance
into the Mystery of Life.¹**

Please be seated.

¹ Joy Cowley

RECONCILIATION

In this time of quiet
we invite you to reflect on life this holiday season.
Bring into the presence of God, in this place,
the joys and burdens you carry with you this morning.
If you need forgiveness, seek it in the renewing love of
God.

If you need healing, or courage, or wisdom,
seek it in the peace of God.

Jesus says,

“Ask, and it will be given to you;
search, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened for you”

Luke 11:9

Silence.

**Gracious God,
give us the wisdom to hold to what we need,
grace to let go of those things
that we can do without,
and a vision of your breadth, height, and depth
that will challenge our smallness of heart,
and bring us humbly together.**

Priest:

Spirit of God hold us,
Spirit of God move us, Spirit of God burn within us,
so that we may light up the world with your love.

SENTENCE AND PRAYER FOR THE DAY

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

Isaiah 43:1, 2

**God of the desert river,
you search our depths and call us by name:
may your flame-born Spirit
open us that we may recognise you
in the one born of earth,
Jesus, the gift of peace. Amen.** ²

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 43:1-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Luke,
chapter three, beginning at verse fifteen.

Shine on our pathways.

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

This is the Gospel of Christ.

May we hear wisdom.

THE SERMON

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

² *Steven Shakespeare, adapt.*

Please stand.

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us. You are God.
You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now. You are God.
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.³**

Please be seated.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us be still and mindful of the world, the Church,
this nation, our communities, and ourselves.

THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace
who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of God be always with you
and also with you.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

³ NZ Prayer Book, p. 481

OFFERTORY HYMN

**Christ, when for us you were baptized,
God's Spirit on you came,
As peaceful as a dove and yet
As urgent as a flame.**

**God called you, "My beloved Son,"
You are God's servant true,
Sent to proclaim the reign of heav'n
God's holy will to do.**

**Straight-way and steadfast until death
You then obeyed the call
To serve with free and willing heart
To give your life for all.**

**Baptize us with your spirit now,
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God's service we
May perfect freedom find..**

Words: F. Bland Tucker 1977, alt.

*Tune: St Bernard, melody from Hémy's 'Easy Hymn Tunes for Catholic Schools', 1851
(adapted from an 18th-cent. German melody). TIS 459*

* *During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's.*

For electronic giving options:

- 1. to make a fast one-off, or ongoing, donation to St Matthew-in-the-City text **stmatthew** to **818**, or **scan this QR code**:*
- 2. use the Tap-n-Go terminal on top of the donation box.*



THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

God, accept your people's gifts,
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,
but hearts and voices raised in praise of you,
our light and our hope.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Spirit is here.

God's hope is in us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God of peace.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,
creator, ever-living God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son:
for at this time we celebrate your revelation in our midst.
In the coming of the Magi Jesus was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism he was revealed as your Son,
sent among us.

In the water made wine
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices in joyful words of praise:

**Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and just,
glory and goodness come from you.
Glory to you most high and gracious God.**

On that night before he died
Jesus took bread and gave you thanks.
He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper, he took the cup, and gave you thanks.
He gave it to them and said:

Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant,
shed for you, shed for all,
to forgive sin; do this to remember me.

As this bread was scattered
and then gathered and made one;
so may we be gathered into your kingdom.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Wisdom has built her a house;
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

Glory to you, O God, for ever.

Send your Holy Spirit,
that we who receive Christ's body
may indeed be the body of Christ,
and we who share his cup
draw strength from the one true vine.

**Praise, glory and love be yours,
this and every day, from us and all people,
here and everywhere. Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Christ teaches us 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life. ⁴**

We sing three times Taizé:



A - do - ra - mus te Chris - te, be - ne - di - ci - mus ti - bi,
qui - a per cru - cem tu - am re - de - mi - sti mun - dum,
qui - a per cru - cem tu - am re - de - mi - sti mun - dum.

⁴ The prayers are taken from the Church of England resources and A NZ Prayer Book

TE POWHIRI THE INVITATION

Haere mai e te kahui a te Atua,
Tangohia enei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

Come, bringing your varied faiths and backgrounds,
for all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

*All are welcome to come and receive the bread and wine;
there are gluten free wafers, just ask the serving priest.*

*There is a chalice for dipping –
simply hold the bread in front of you to signify your choice.*

If you do not wish to take communion you may come forward for a blessing.

*If the stairs are a barrier please sit in the front pews
and communion will be brought to you.*

Te Taro o te Ora. The Bread of Life

Te Kapu o te Ora. The Cup of Salvation

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Priest:

God of abundant love and unexpected gifts.
We delight in your presence amongst us.

**We are glad we can gather around your table as friends
sharing the bread of life and wine of blessing.**

In this holiday season

we will look for you in the smile of strangers,

we will honour you in the life of those we love,

we will be people of God and the Body of Christ

wherever we are. Amen.

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

RECESSIONAL HYMN

**From this holy time,
from this sacred space,
we go now to serve
our own day and place,
committed to follow
the way Jesus trod:
do justly, love mercy,
walk humbly with God.**

**He lives in our midst,
though gone from our sight,
baptised in his name,
we walk in his light;
we treasure his presence,
example and word:
do justly, love mercy,
walk humbly with God.**

**Let this be our life,
till Christ come again -
to love as he loves
and work for God's reign,
this song in our hearts
and this sign on our road:
do justly, love mercy,
walk humbly with God.**

Words: M. Barrell. Tune: Laudate Dominum, C. H. H. Parry (1848-1918), TIS 215

Deacon from the rear of the church:

Go now to live the Gospel. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the power of Love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Fugue in D major

J. S. Bach

We invite you to **keep** this copy of the Service and take it home with you to share with another member of your family, or with a friend **OR**

put in a recycling bin provided at the back of the church.

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