

Epiphany 1 – The Baptism of Christ

Sunday 10 January 2021

Welcome

A voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved,
with whom I am well pleased.'

Matthew 3:17

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
be with you
and also with you

We meet in the name of God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Saying sorry

The grace of God has dawned upon the world
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Receiving Forgiveness

May Christ who came into the world to save sinners,
bring us his pardon and his peace,
now and forever.

Amen

Collect for the first Sunday of Epiphany

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Song – Lord of Our Life and God of Our Salvation

- 1 Lord of our life, and God of our salvation,
star of our night, and hope of ev'ry nation,
hear and receive thy Church's supplication,
Lord God almighty.
- 2 Lord, thou canst help when earthly armour faileth,
Lord, thou canst save when deadly sin assaileth;
Christ, o'er thy rock nor death nor hell prevaieth;
grant us thy peace, Lord.
- 3 Peace in our hearts, our evil thoughts assuaging;
peace in thy Church, where people are engaging;
peace, when the world its busy war is waging;
calm all our raging.
- 4 Grant us thy grace through trial and temptation,
grant us thy truth, thy promise of salvation,
grant us thy peace in ev'ry heart and nation,
and in thy heaven.

Readings

Genesis 1:1-5

1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ² 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. ³ Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Acts 19:1-7

19 While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ² 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.' ³ Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' ⁴ 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.' ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— ⁷ altogether there were about twelve of them.

Mark 1:4-11

⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ 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. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ 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. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Talk – Sid Mitchell (LLM in training)

Song – Peace is Flowing Like a River

1 Peace is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

*Refrain Let it flow through me, let it flow through me,
let the mighty peace of God flow out through me.
Let it flow through me, let it flow through me,
let the mighty peace of God flow out through me.*

2 Love is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

3 Joy is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

4 Faith is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

5 Hope is flowing like a river,
flowing out through you and me,
spreading out into the desert,
setting all the captives free.

Affirming our Faith – The 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

After each prayer:

The Lord hears our prayers.

Thanks be to God.

The prayers conclude with:

Merciful Father

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Looking for the coming of his kingdom, 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 for ever.

Amen.

Song – Thou, Whose Almighty Word

- 1 Thou, whose almighty word
 chaos and darkness heard,
 and took their flight;
 hear us, we humbly pray,
 and where the gospel-day
 sheds not its glorious ray,
 let there be light.

- 2 Thou, who didst come to bring
 on thy redeeming wing,
 healing and sight,
 health to the sick in mind,
 sight to the inly blind,
 O now to all mankind
 let there be light.

- 3 Spirit of truth and love,
 life-giving, holy Dove,
 speed forth thy flight;
 move on the water's face,
 bearing the lamp of grace,
 and in earth's darkest place
 let there be light.

- 4 Holy and blessed Three,
 glorious Trinity,
 Wisdom, Love, Might;
 boundless as ocean's tide
 rolling in fullest pride,
 through the earth far and wide
 let there be light.

Blessing

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water
welling up to eternal life,
perfect in us the image of his glory;

Amen.

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore.**

Amen.

Ending

We are called and loved by God the Father
and kept safe by Jesus Christ.

May mercy, peace and love be ours in abundance,
from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.