

Service for the Baptism of Christ



St Laurence Church, Downton

10 January 2021

Preparation

Call to Worship

Ascribe to the Lord,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his name;
worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness. *Psalm 29*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: **Hail to the Lord's Anointed**
(St Martin's Voices)

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes, with succour speedy, to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
that love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth;
before him, on the mountains, shall peace the herald go;
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend,
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever, his changeless name of Love.

James Montgomery (1771-1854)

Gathering:

We are gathered to worship our God.

Send your Spirit upon us.

We come from many places, with many burdens.

Send your Spirit upon us.

We turn our hearts to you, O God.

**Send your Spirit upon us,
and make us your beloved family.**

adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2006

Canticle:

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;

a bruised reed **he** will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed
**until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.**

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,

to open the eyes that are blind,
**to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.**

I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Isaiah 42:1-9

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: Come Holy Ghost
(Clare College Chapel Choir)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Believing the promises of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

Conclusion

The Collect

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.**

Blessing:

The Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God,
teach you to walk in his way more trustfully,
to accept his truth more faithfully,
and to share his life more lovingly;
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may come as one family to the kingdom of the Father.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!