



Sunday 8 January 2023, 10.00am

The Baptism of Christ

The Eucharist

Presider and Preacher
Revd Dr Sam Wells

Deacon
Revd Angela Sheard

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed and accompanied by
Polina Sosnina

⊕ Common Worship

Thank you for joining us today, whether you are in the building or worshipping online.

Please note the following guidelines for worship in the building. These are gestures of the care we have for one another.

- You are welcome to wear a face mask.
- At the Peace you are invited to shake hands with neighbours, but please be respectful of those who would rather share the peace in non-physical ways.
- If you are feeling unwell, please return home and join us online if possible.

Filming

This service is being streamed live to our public Facebook page. The camera focuses on the clergy and other contributors only for most of the service but turns to face the congregation at times, in the central block of seating between the pillars. If you wish to avoid being on camera, please sit on the south side area and let a steward know if you would like to receive communion. We will be filming the reading of the Gospel from halfway down the central aisle. Please note people sitting in pews immediately around this may be caught on camera at this point.

Supporting St Martin's

In line with health advice we have reintroduced cash offerings as part of our worship. You are also invited to give in other ways:

online at <https://stmartininthefields.myiknowchurch.co.uk/giving>

by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message)



The Gathering

Welcome

Please stand. Silence is kept.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

We acknowledge God's presence drawing each of us into one body as we gather on site and online.

Visit us Lord, by your Holy Spirit.

All **Though in many places, we are united as one body.
Though from many backgrounds, we share one hope.**

Opening Hymn

- 1 Awake, awake: fling off the night!
For God has sent his glorious light;
and we who live in Christ's new day
must works of darkness put away.**
- 2 Awake and rise, with love renewed,
and with the Spirit's power endued.
The light of life in us must glow,
and fruits of truth and goodness show.**
- 3 Let in the light: all sin expose
to Christ, whose life no darkness knows.
Before his cross for guidance kneel;
his light will judge and, judging, heal.**
- 4 Awake, and rise up from the dead,
and Christ his light on you will shed.
Its power will wrong desires destroy,
and your whole nature fill with joy.**
- 5 Then sing for joy, and use each day;
give thanks for everything alway.
Lift up your hearts; with one accord
praise God through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

John Raphael Peacey (1896-1971)

Please sit or kneel.

Confession

God longs to be with us, and Jesus Christ embodies the companionship God seeks with us. But we find ways to live in alienation from God, ourselves, one another and God's creation. Let us confess those ways in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness, and resolved to live truthful and reconciled lives.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Please stand.

Gloria in Excelsis *opposite*

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 forever.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est. Glo-ry to God in the

High - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, Heav'n - ly King, Al-

migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we_ praise you for your

glo - ry. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est.

Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa - ther. Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take_ a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us; You are

sea - ted at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. Glo-ry to God,

Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly one,

You a - lone are the Lord, You a - lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly spi - rit, in the Glo - ry of God the Fa - ther,

Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the High - est.

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Isaiah 42: 1-9 *read by Anna Gregorowski*

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.

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Acts 10: 34-43 *read by Eddie Grove*

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the

one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel in the centre aisle.

Gospel Hymn

- 1 **When Jesus comes to be baptised,
he leaves the hidden years behind,
the years of safety and of peace,
to bear the sins of humankind.**
- 2 **The Spirit of the Lord comes down,
anoints the Christ to suffering,
to preach the word, to free the bound,
and to the mourner comfort bring.**
- 3 **He will not quench the dying flame,
and what is bruised he will not break,
but heal the wound injustice dealt,
and out of death his triumph make.**

continued after Gospel reading

Gospel Reading Matthew 3: 13-end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptised, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn *continued*

- 4 Our everlasting Father praise
with Christ, his well-beloved Son,
who with the Spirit reigns serene,
eternal Trinity in One.**

Stanbrook Abbey

Please sit after the opening prayer.

Sermon Revd Dr Sam Wells

Anthem If Ye Love Me *Tallis*

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed

- All 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.**

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession *led by Wendy Quill*

The response to the prayers is:

Lord in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

And, at the end:

Merciful Father,

All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

A collection will be taken for the work of this church during the following hymn. You are welcome to donate using:

- cash in the collection bags filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable*
- select amount and tap the card machines brought by the stewards*
- online at stmartininthefields.myknowchurch.co.uk/giving*
- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message).*

Offertory Hymn

**1 Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

continued...

- 2 **O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**
- 3 **Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

A musical interlude may be played on the organ before the final verse is sung

- 4 **And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

Discendi, amor santo Bianco da Siena (d. 1434) tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented. The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. The president takes the bread and wine.

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new. By these gifts of water, bread and wine, transform the poverty of our nature, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

God of hope, in your Holy Spirit you hovered over the face of the waters in creation, and in your pillar of fire you led your people to liberation across the Red Sea. Through the waters you brought your people into the life and land of promise. In your Son's baptism at the Jordan we see your creative and liberating purpose at work amid our human flaws and failures, and we hear anew with hope the promise of your voice. In our own baptism you number us among your saints, created and redeemed for your glory. Through baptism you bury us in death with Christ yet raise us to new life with him forever. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might, Hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessing God, who sent down your Holy Spirit like a dove upon your Beloved, send your Spirit among us now to sanctify us by your grace. By the power of that same Spirit, make these gifts of bread and wine be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, '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.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Father of glory, you have opened your heaven and come among us. Be close to those who ache for your liberating power in the midst of travails and seek your open heaven. Visit all who need the healing, forgiving, peacemaking and restoring touch of your Spirit and look for your kingdom to come. Bless all who long to be called beloved, by sibling or parent or spouse or friend or child, and any who are searching for the love that only you can bring, until all stand in your presence, and sing your name, and are enfolded in your embrace, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God,

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own first language

All **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.

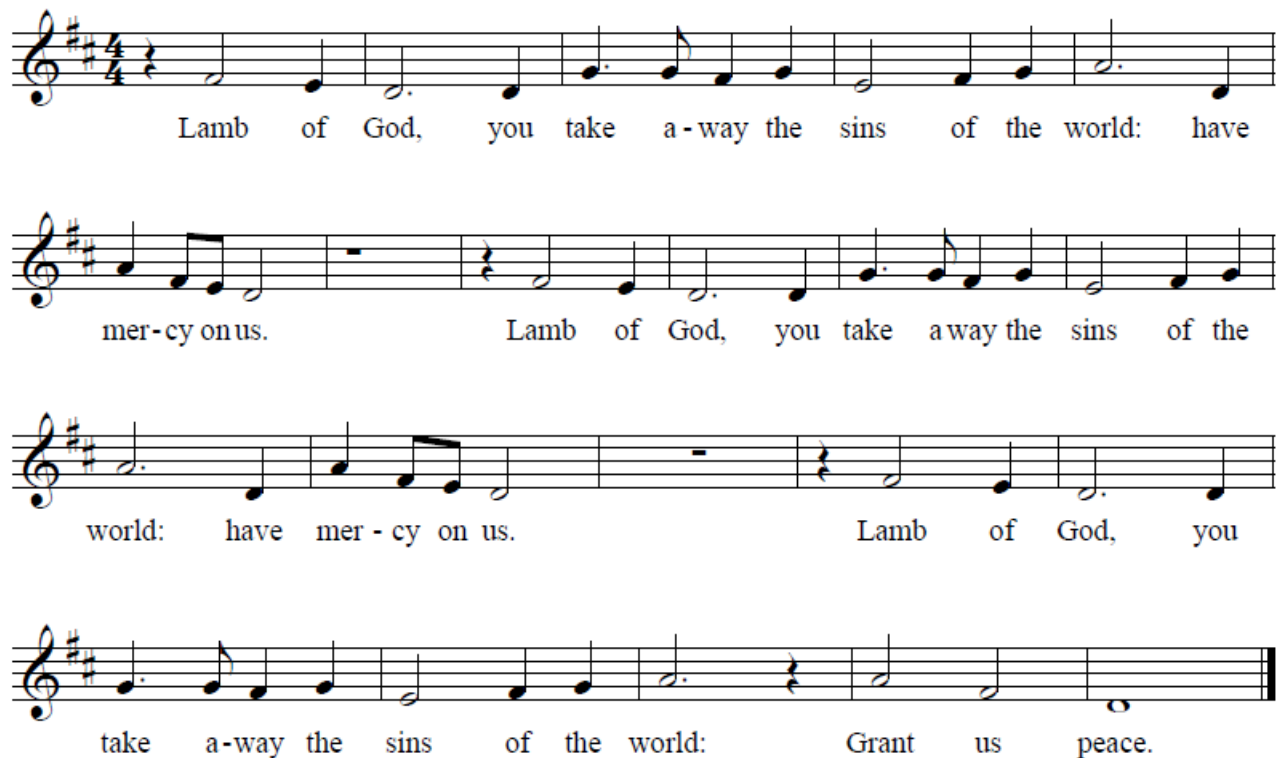
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sins of the world: Grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord I am not worthy to receive you
but only say the word and I shall be healed.

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are invited to
receive Holy Communion.*

*Bread and wine are available in the central and side aisles. Gluten-
free wafers are available in the south aisle. If you wish to receive
Communion in your seat do let a steward know.*

Communion Anthem O Taste and See *Vaughan Williams*

Silence is kept.

Prayer after Communion

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 the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

Blessing

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

- 1 **On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings!**
- 2 **Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.**
- 3 **For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away
Like flowers that wither and decay.**

continued...

**4 To heal the sick stretch out thy hand,
and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom, with the Father, we adore,
and Holy Ghost, for evermore.**

Jordanis oras praevia Charles Coffin (1676-1749) tr. John Chandler (1806-1876)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Voluntary

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