



St. Thomas'
CATHEDRAL

*Mumbai • Estd 1718
The Church of North India*

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

The Order of Service for Holy Eucharist



The Baptism of Jesus and Covenant Sunday *observed*

Sunday 8th January 2023 • 8.45 am

Welcome to St Thomas' Cathedral for this service

Today we remember the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. The Christmas season, which celebrates the revelation of God through Christ, reaches its fulfillment with today's commemoration. At Jesus' baptism, God declares Jesus' identity: he is a son. God also expresses what that relationship means to him: Jesus is a 'beloved' son. A single glorious acclamation links two moments of revelation in the Gospels: first, the baptism (as today), and, later, the Transfiguration.

All that we ever really want from life is to be truly beloved. What a moment of ecstasy, then, when the letters of Paul reveal that we too have become God's beloved children! Why does God bother with us? Isaiah records his answer: 'because I love you'.

The baptism of Christ is described in all four Gospels, and marks the beginning of his public ministry. It is a day in which we also remember and celebrate our own baptism, as we renew and reaffirm our own baptismal promises.

Do not leave this service booklet behind. Take it home with you to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit.



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Order of Service

The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.

The Gathering

Music before the Service

“Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern”
 (“How brightly beams the Morning Star”) Pachelbel (1653 - 1706)

Prelude on ‘Come down, O Love divine’ H. Ley (1887 - 1962)

Intrada on “The First Nowell” Ashley Grote (b. 1982)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit

sung by the choir

Spirit of the Living God,
fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God,
fall afresh on me.

Daniel Iverson (1890 - 1977)

All STAND

Opening Acclamation

led by the Presbyter from the West Door

Presbyter

Alleluia, alleluia.

We have seen his star at its rising,

All

and have come to pay him homage.

The Lord of glory be with you.

The Lord bless you.

This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ

in the waters of baptism.

Alleluia. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

**² They lookèd up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.**

**³ And by the light of that same star,
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.**

**⁴ This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.**

**⁵ Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon the knee,
And offered there, in his presence,
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.**

**⁶ Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.**

Traditional English carol

Please be **seated**

*Follow the readings and the Order of Service for the Lord's Supper
in **The Book of Common Prayer** (refer page numbers).
The hymns can be found in **The English Hymnal**.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the day

Read by the Presbyter

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.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1: 1 - 5

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

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.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ♦
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; ♦
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; ♦
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

- 4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; ♦
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; ♦
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf ♦
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

- 7 The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; ♦
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare; ♦
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'
- 9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; ♦
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.
- 10 The Lord shall give strength to his people; ♦
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

**Open our ears, glorious Lord Christ,
to hear the music of your voice
above the chaos of this world;
open our eyes to see the vision of your glory,
for you are our King, now and for ever.**

New Testament Reading

Acts 19:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

*All **STAND** and join in singing*

Gradual 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.**

**² God called you his beloved Son,
Called you his Servant too;
His kingdom you were called to preach,
His holy will to do.**

**³ Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,
Your cross on us be signed,
That likewise in God’s service we
May perfect freedom find.**

Words: E. Tucker (1895 - 1984)

Tune: MARTYRDOM # 367
Smith’s ‘Sacred Music’, 1825
Possibly an old Scottish melody

The Gospel of Christ

St. Luke 3: 15 - 17, 21 & 22

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

Gospeller The Lord be with you.
All **And with thy spirit.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable. Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

At the end of the Gospel:

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
All **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

*Remain **STANDING** for the Creed, all reciting together*

The Nicene Creed | **Page 354**

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

While seated, we sing

**When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptised by John,
he did not come for pardon,
but as his Father's Son.
he came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.**

Words: F. Pratt Green (1903 - 2000)

Tune: AURELIA
S. S. Wesley (1810 - 76)

The Presbyter pours water into the font saying,

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.

The Presbyter stands before the water and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps His promise for ever.

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

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.

Act of Penitence and Dedication

God of truth, you are faithful to the covenant
you have made with us;
look in mercy on your people.

From all our sins,

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have broken the pledges of our baptism,
and failed to be your disciples.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Though we are saved by Christ
and dead to sin through the deep waters of death,
we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have shown indifference to those in need
and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember
your repeated forgiveness of our sins.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Today we rejoice and give thanks
because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the Jordan.
Through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism
for the remission of our sins.

From all our sins, ○ Lord

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

Through water and Spirit you give us new life as the people of God,
and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant.

From all our sins, ○ Lord:

○ Lord: wash us, and we shall be clean.

The Presbyter says

Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us
to be temples of your Holy Spirit.

May we, whom you have counted worthy,
nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith,
and worship you with upright lives;
through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Water is sprinkled.

*All **STAND** and say the Covenant Prayer.*

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will,

set me with whom you will;

put me to doing, put me to suffering;

let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,

exalted for you or brought low for you;

let me be full, let me be empty;

let me have all things, let me have nothing;

I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things

to your pleasure and disposal.

**And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.**

So be it.

And the covenant now renewed on earth,

let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

All sing

**Come, Holy Spirit, aid us
to keep the vows we make:
this very day invade us,
and every bondage break;
come, give our lives direction,
the gift we covet most –
to share the resurrection
that leads to Pentecost.**

Words: F. Pratt Green

Tune: AURELIA
S. S. Wesley

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All **STAND**

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant

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. Alleluia.

cf Corinthians I. 22

All

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

While remaining in your place, share the sign of peace with a namaste with your neighbour.

Preparation of the Table

*At this time an offering will be received for the ministries of the Cathedral.
Thank you for your generosity.*

All join in singing

Hymns at the Offertory

**Crashing waters at creation,
ordered by the Spirit's breath,
first to witness day's beginning
from the brightness of night's death.**

² **Parting water stood and trembled
as the captives passed on through,
washing off the chains of bondage,
channel to a life made new.**

³ **Cleansing water once at Jordan
closed around the one foretold,
opened to reveal the glory
ever new and ever old.**

Continued

**⁴ Living water, never ending,
quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Wellspring, source of life eternal,
drench our dryness, make us whole.**

Words: Sylvia Dunstan

Tune: STUTTGART #40

Adapted from a melody in, 'Psalmody Sacra', 1715

Come, let us use the grace divine

**Come, let us use the grace divine,
and all with one accord,
in a perpetual covenant join
ourselves to Christ the Lord;
Give up ourselves, through Jesus' power,
his name to glorify;
and promise, in this sacred hour,
for God to live and die.**

**² Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
let all our hearts receive,
present with thy celestial host
the peaceful answer give;
to each covenant the blood apply
which takes our sins away,
and register our names on high
and keep us to that day!
Amen.**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707 - 1788)

Tune: KINGSFOLD # 574

From an English traditional melody

All say

Offertory Prayer | **page 357**

Please be seated

The Preparation for Communion | *page 361*

The Consecration | *page 363*

The Communion | *page 368*

While seated, we sing

Hymn at the Communion | **# 582**

Take my life and let it be

Tune: ST BEES (# 400, Appendix 52)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept

STAND as the President says

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 the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All then say

**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.**

All sing

Gloria in Excelsis | *page 371*

The Presbyter

The Blessing

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water
welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
† And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All sing **Amen.**

All join in singing

Hymn at the Closing | # 39

As with gladness men of old

Tune: DIX

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

We have seen His glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude

“Est ist das Heil uns kommen her”
 (“Salvation has come to us”)

J.S. Bach, BWV 638 (1685 - 1750)

Birthdays this week

*“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

Ephesians 2: 10

Kusum Parker (9), Manju John (13)

Wedding Anniversary

"Do everything in love."

I Corinthians 16: 14

Ravichandran T. & Latha Ravichandran (12)

Notices

- We have lost two loved members of our congregation during the course of last week. Mr. David Roberts passed away after a prolonged illness on 3rd January 2023. Pray for God's comfort to his siblings Hephzibah, Ruth and Monica. Mr. William Millns, beloved father of Rohit, Vikram and Shalini, passed away on 5th January 2023. Pray for the bereaved families at this time.
- The *Mumbai Marathon* will take place next Sunday 15th January 2023. With some roads being closed to traffic, please plan your commute accordingly.

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** We continue to pray for peace in the face of Putin's decision to send a Russian warship armed with hypersonic missiles on combat duty into the Atlantic Ocean. • Our hearts and prayers go out to disabled people in the United Kingdom unable to afford heating and food, as soaring inflation is impacting them so significantly. • Regarding the situation of surging cases of COVID in China, we pray that health advice will be considered, practical and apolitical.

† **OUR COUNTRY** Continue to pray for our armed forces guarding our borders. Pray for the health and well-being of all in the wake of a surge in COVID being experienced by some countries.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** In the Season of Epiphany we give thanks for the manifestation of Christ to all peoples. • In the *Anglican Communion* for The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) and the Most Revd Stephen Than Myint Oo. • Later this month the Church observes the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*. Let us pray for greater ecumenism between different denominations. We thank God for the leadership to the Roman Catholic Church of the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** We give thanks to God for the life and ministry of Bishop Samuel Azariah, 1874 - 1945 (commemorated 1st January). Bishop Azariah was the first Indian Anglican bishop in India; and Bishop Daniel Wilson, 1778 - 1858 (commemorated 2nd January). Bishop Wilson was the first Metropolitan of the Anglican Church in India and Bishop of Calcutta. He was instrumental in the building of St Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Vile Parle and the Revd Prabhu Jebamani. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in providing leadership for our Diocese.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** For the Youth Fellowship. • For all senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for Mr. Allen Moses and others known to us.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.

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