

# St Mary's Church, Walkley



**The Church on the Road:**  
*Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God*

## The Baptism of Christ

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

### **Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley**

At the moment we are not quite back to our usual way of worship. You will notice that:

- Half the seating is still arranged for people who want to keep physical distance.
- We will be singing only a little – at the beginning and towards the end of the service, whilst wearing face-coverings.
- There won't be a Gospel procession. Instead, the president (the priest leading the service) will read the Gospel from the front of the altar.
- We won't be able to share the Peace in the usual way. Instead, we will stay in our places and wave, nod or bow to each other.

## **The Gathering**

*We stand.*

*President* In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

*President* Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

*All* **From the rising of the sun to its setting  
your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

*President* The Lord of glory be with you.

*All* **The Lord bless you.**

*We sit to sing a hymn, please remain masked.*

*We stand for the Gloria.*

## **The Gloria in Excelsis**

*All* **Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*President* Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism.

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.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## **The Reading: Acts 8. 14 - 17**

*Reader* A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Music is played.*

*We stand for the Gospel.*

## **The Gospel Reading: Luke 3. 15 - 17, 21 - 22**

*Minister* Alleluia, alleluia.  
This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

*All* **Alleluia.**

*Matthew 3.17*

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

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

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

*Minister* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*We sit.*

## **The Sermon**

*We stand.*

## **The Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism**

*Water is poured into the font.*

*President* God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.  
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

*All* **Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

*President* Praise God who made heaven and earth,

*All* **who keeps his promise for ever.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* 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.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit  
move upon these waters.

Restore through them the beauty of your creation,  
and bring those who are baptized  
to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement,  
anoint your children with power from on high,  
and make them one with Christ  
in the freedom of your kingdom.

For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,  
now and for ever.

*All* **Alleluia. Amen.**

## **The Act of Penitence and Dedication**

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

From all our sins, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

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

From all our sins, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Minister* 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, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Minister* We have shown indifference to those in need  
and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth.  
From all our sins, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Minister* We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember  
your repeated forgiveness of our sins.  
From all our sins, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Minister* 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, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Minister* 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, O Lord:

*All* **wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Minister* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

*The water may be sprinkled over the people.*

*President* 'Come,' say the Spirit and the Bride.  
'Come forward, you who are thirsty,  
receive the water of life,  
the free gift to all who desire it.'

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

*Intercessor* Lord of truth,  
*All* **Hear our prayer.**

*Or another response is used.*

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

*We stand.*

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

*President* 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.

*2 Corinthians 1.22*

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

*Minister* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those  
around us as the altar is prepared.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

You celebrated your new gift of baptism  
in signs and wonders at the Jordan.

Your voice was heard from heaven  
to awaken faith in the presence among us  
of your Word made flesh.

Your Spirit was seen as a dove,  
revealing Jesus as your servant,  
and anointing him with the oil of gladness  
to preach the good news to the poor.

Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,  
we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven  
for ever praising you and saying:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*President* We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.



On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*Minister* Great is the mystery of faith:

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

*President* Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary, Mark, John and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit or kneel.*

## The Lord's Prayer

*President* Believing the promises of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*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.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

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

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

## The Giving of Communion

*President* Jesus is the Christ, the Chosen of God,

*All*        **the one who will bring healing to the nations.**

*President* The body of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
which was given for you,  
preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life.  
Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

*All*        **Amen.**

*The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front. Sanitising stations are available at the front of church to use before receiving.*

*During the distribution music may be played.*

## **The Prayer after Communion**

*President* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*We stand.*

## The Blessing

*President* May God the Father,  
who led the magi by the shining of a star  
to find the Christ, the Light from light,  
lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* May God the Son,  
who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,  
transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* May God the Holy Spirit,  
who came upon the beloved Son  
at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
pour out his gifts on you  
who have come to the waters of new birth.

*All* **Amen.**

*President* And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

*We sit to sing a hymn, please remain masked.*

## The Dismissal

*Minister* We have come to Christ, the living water.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

***Please take this order of service away with you!***

*Beginning with the back rows of pews and chairs, please leave using the church porch and move away as quickly as possible to help others to leave too. If you use the ramp, please use the hall door, and move away as quickly as you can.*

**More information: [stmaryswalkley.co.uk/opt-in-to-hear-from-st-marys/](https://stmaryswalkley.co.uk/opt-in-to-hear-from-st-marys/)**