

St Mary's Church, Walkley



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

The Baptism of Christ Eucharist

12th January 2025

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

**President: The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings
Preacher: The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings
Churchwarden on duty: Janet**

The Gathering and Opening Hymn

We stand and we sing the opening hymn as water is brought to the font:

Tune: Aurelia – The Church's one foundation

**When Jesus came to Jordan
to be baptized by John,
he did not come for pardon,
but as the sinless One.
He came to share repentance
with all who mourn their sins,
to speak the vital sentence
with which good news begins.**

**He came to share temptation,
our utmost woe and loss,
for us and our salvation
to die upon the cross.
So when the Dove descended
on him, the Son of Man,
the hidden years had ended,
the age of grace began.**

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

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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 Three wonders mark this holy season
as the Church is joined to her heavenly Bridegroom.

President This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.

All **Alleluia.**

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

All **and also with you.**

The Christ is Revealed in the Waters of Baptism

President I will take you from the nations,
All **and gather you from all the countries.**

President I will sprinkle clean water upon you,
All **and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness.**

President A new heart I will give you,
All **and put a new spirit within you.**

President You shall be my people,
All **and I will be your God.**

Ezekiel 36

The water is received and placed near the font.

President Blessed are you,
Lord our God, King of the universe:
you bring waters out of the stony rock.
For with you is the well of life,
and in your light shall we see light.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

We remain standing and we sing:

The Gloria in Excelsis

Cantor Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Cantor 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.

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Cantor 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.

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Cantor 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.

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

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: Isaiah 43. 1 - 7

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn

We stand and we sing. During the hymn we turn to face the processional cross as the book of the Gospels moves to the middle of the people.

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.**

The Sermon

We stand.

Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

The water is poured into the font.

President God in Christ gives us the 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 The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

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 indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times to give you thanks and praise,
for today the grace of the Holy Spirit
in the form of a dove descended upon the waters.

Today the sun that never sets has risen
and the world is filled with splendour
by the light of the Lord.

Today the clouds drop down upon all people
the dew of righteousness from on high.

Today the Uncreated of his own will
accepts the laying on of hands from his own creature.

Today the waters of the Jordan
are transformed for healing by the coming of the Lord.

Today the blinding mist of the world is dispersed by the Epiphany of
our God.

Today things above keep feast with things below,
and things below commune with things above.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
accept our sacrifice of praise,
and by the power of your life-giving Spirit
sanctify these waters of your new creation,
that we, with all who have been born anew
by water and the Spirit,
may be renewed in your image,
walk by the light of faith,
and serve you in newness of life.

Through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of praise:

All **blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,
now and for ever. Amen.**

We remain standing and we sing:

Tune: Leaving of Lismore

**Spirit of God, come dwell within me.
Open my heart, O come set me free,
fill me with love for Jesus, my Lord,
O fill me with living water.**

Jesus is living, Jesus is here.

Jesus my Lord, come closer to me.

*Jesus our Saviour dying for me,
and rising to save his people.*

**Lord, how I thirst, O Lord, I am weak.
Lord, come to me, you alone do I seek.
Lord, you are life, and love and hope,
O fill me with living water.**

Jesus is living, Jesus is here...

**Lord, I am blind. O Lord, I can't see.
Stretch out your hand, O Lord, comfort me.
Lead me your way in light and in truth,
O fill me with living water.**

Jesus is living, Jesus is here...

Helen Kennedy

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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

All The peace of the Lord be always with you,
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.*

The Offertory Hymn

*We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to
support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the
back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving
station. If you would like to give regularly to St Mary's please speak
to the Treasurer, or one of the Churchwardens.*

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 singing:

Cantor Holy Holy Holy Lord

All **Holy Holy Holy Lord**

Cantor God of power and God of might

All **God of power and God of might**

Cantor Heaven and earth are full of your glory

All **Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Cantor Hosanna in the highest

All **Hosanna in the highest**

Cantor Blessed is he who comes

All **Blessed is he who comes**

Cantor In the name of the Lord most High

All **In the name of the Lord most High**

Cantor Hosanna

All **Hosanna**

Cantor Hosanna

All **Hosanna**

Cantor Hosanna in the highest

All **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 Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Cantor Dying you destroyed our death
All **Dying you destroyed our death**

Cantor Rising you restored our life
All **Rising you restored our life**

Cantor Lord Jesus come
All **Lord Jesus come**

Cantor Lord Jesus come
All **Lord Jesus come**

Cantor Come again in glory
All **Come again in glory**

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.**

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 and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front.

We are now able to receive the wine as well as the bread. The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar.

During the distribution we sing.

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 **Merciful God,
you have called us to your table
and fed us with the bread of life.
Draw us and all people to serve your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Notices

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 us in our pilgrimage to find the Lord.

All **Amen.**

President May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,
give us a place with the saints in light
in the kingdom of his beloved Son.

All **Amen.**

President May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in our hearts and fill our lives
with his joy and peace.

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

We remain standing and we sing during which we turn to face the back of church as the robed ministers process.

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.**

Coffee and tea are served after the service.

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

