

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



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

## **The Baptism of Christ Eucharist**

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

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

**President: The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings  
Preacher: The Revd Canon James Wilson  
Team Warden: David**

## **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.**

Fred Pratt Green, 1973 ©1980 by Hope Publishing Company  
Reproduced under Onelicense number 2072 and CCLI licence number 290314

## 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 42. 1 - 9**

*Reader* A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

*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: Matthew 3. 13 - end**

*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 Matthew.

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

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized 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 baptized, 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.'

*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  
© St. Mungo Music  
Reproduced under Onelicense number 2072  
and CCLI licence number 290314

## **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.

*All* From all our sins, O Lord:  
**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 exchange the peace through smiles, waves and handshakes  
with those around us, as you feel comfortable.*

## 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 Team Wardens.*

## 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.*

*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 and music is 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* **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](http://stmaryswalkley.co.uk)**

