

# The Baptism of Christ

## INTRODUCTION

In the name of the Father,  
and of ✠ the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All respond: Amen.*

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

**And also with you.**

*The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.*

In his mercy, God has saved us through the water of rebirth and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism. Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises by confessing our sins in penitence.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

℟. **Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart: Christ, have mercy.

℟. **Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided: Lord, have mercy.

℟. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us ✠ our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is recited.*

**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.**

*All remain standing for the 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 for ever. **Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year B

FIRST READING

*Gen 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.

**Thanks be to God.**

℟. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

(All repeat)

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due unto his  
name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. ℟.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders.  
The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;  
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. ℟.

The Lord sits enthroned above the waterflood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.  
The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of  
peace. ℟.

## SECOND READING

Acts 19.1–7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland 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.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the Beloved:  
with whom I am well pleased.

℟. **Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL READING

Mk 1.4–11

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt round his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

A SERMON *may follow.*

All *stand to recite the* NICENE CREED.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,**

true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*(all bow)* was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

*(all rise)* For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

*The INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:*

℣. Lord, hear us. ℞. **Lord, graciously hear us.**  
or ℣. Lord, in your mercy, ℞. **Hear our prayer.**

*At the Commemoration of the Departed:*

℣. Rest eternal ✠ grant to them, O Lord;  
℞. **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

*The Intercessions end:*

Merciful Father,  
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*All stand as the priest introduces the PEACE.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*All may sit for the OFFERTORY. The priest may praise God for his gifts, to which all respond:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*All stand for the PRAYER over the OFFERINGS.*

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Open the heavens, Lord God, and send your transforming Spirit on us and on these gifts. May we who are baptized into Christ be ready to share his cup of suffering and strengthened to serve him for ever; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The PREFACE follows.*

*All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.*

**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.**

*All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying, you destroyed our death;**

**rising, you restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:*

... for ever and ever. Amen.

## RITE OF COMMUNION

*The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is said.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world: have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world: grant us peace.**

*The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.*

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.*

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.**

## CONCLUSION

*The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the Father, whose voice bore witness to his beloved Son at the River Jordan, bestow upon you the Spirit of adoption as his children. **Amen.**

May Christ, who submitted to baptism at the hands of John, fulfil in you all righteousness and cleanse you from sin. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who came upon the Son at his baptism, pour out his gifts on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

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

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

*The service may be followed by the ANGELUS.*

∨. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:  
℞. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners, now,  
and at the hour of our death.**

∨. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

℞. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ...

∨. And the Word was made flesh:

℞. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ...

∨. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:

℞. **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought to the glory of his Resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**