

Sunday 12th January, 2025
The First Sunday after Epiphany
The Baptism of the Lord

Minister: Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.
Musical Director: Mr. Alan Craig. B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Members of the congregation who are able to stand are invited to do so as the Bible is brought in and taken out of the Church.

Intimations

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 636 Baptized in water,

- 1 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king;
heirs of salvation,
trusting his promise -
faithfully now God's praise we sing.
- 2 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our king;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven
thankfully now God's praise we sing.
- 3 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king;
born of one Father,
we are his children -
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Children's Address

Hymn 271 Loving God, you see us here,

- 1 Loving God, you see us here,
know our names and who we are.
Though we never have seen you,
we believe you are here.
- 2 Loving God, you hear our prayer
for all those in need today.
Show us how we can help you,
help us do what we can.
- 3 Loving God, you stay with us,
wide awake and when we sleep.
Thank you for every moment,
thank you for your great care.

L. Å Person and G. Strandsjö *translated* Leif Nahnfeldt Reproduced from *CH4* CD-ROM edition, number 271
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Isaiah, Chapter 43, verses 1-7

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.
²When 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.

³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia^[a] and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴ 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.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶ 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—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

Anthem

St. Luke, Chapter 3, verses 15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,^[a] ¹⁶ 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^[a] the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ 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.'

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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;^[a] with you I am well pleased.'^[a]

Hymn My Jesus, my Saviour

My Jesus, my Saviour,
Lord there is none like you.
All of my days, I want to praise,
The wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,
Power of refuge and strength.
Let every breath, all that I am,
Never cease to worship you.

CHORUS

Shout to the Lord let us sing,
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar,
At the sound of your Name.
I'll sing for Joy at the works of your hands.
Forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise,
I have in you.

Sermon

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayers of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn 336 Christ is our light! the bright and morning star

1 Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
covering with radiance all from near and far.
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray
into our hearts, into our world today.

2 Christ is our love! baptized that we may know
the love of God among us, swooping low.
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.

3 Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!
Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,
as your disciples did in Galilee.

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Benediction

Choral Amen